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OF

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INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT, COMMERCE,

AND

GENERAL LITERATURE.

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THE

WESTERN JOURNAL.

VOL. V. December, 1850. NO. III

WESTERN INTEREST—MEMORIAL OF THE EVANSVILLE CONVENTION.

Except the adjustment, by Congress, of the agitating questions which grew out of the annexation of Texas and the acquisition of California, no event, of a public nature, within the current year, has afforded us a higher degree of satisfaction than the recent meeting of a Convention at Evansville, Indiana, for the purpose of taking into consideration the action of Congress, in reference to Western interests.

While political and religious meetings are being held in the north, for the purpose of denouncing a law of Congress, recommending disobedience to its mandates, and resistance to its execution; and, while southern men assemble in convention to deliberate on the question of secession, and declare what particular acts of Congress will authorise them to secede from the Union, it is refreshing to see Western men meeting in council to deliberate upon measures, which, though in some sense local, yet, look to the prosperity and happiness of every part of the nation. The memorial to Congress, adopted by the Evansville Convention, is conceived in the true spirit of the men of this Great Valley. Just in its demands, manly in tone, and breathing the sentiment of fraternal kindness towards every section of our common country, it will meet with a cordial response from every true western heart.

The memorial, and the resolutions which follow, shadow forth the policy which western statesmen are expected to pursue. They have been too long following the lead of Northern or Southern Politicians, as one or the other could succeed

in enlisting them under their banners; and, while in the service of others, as a natural consequence, they neglected the interest of their own constituents. But they should not be blamed, perhaps, on this account; for their constituents, confiding in the abundant resources of the country, and in the justice and liberality of the national Legislature, have required little at their hands beyond the loyalty due to their respective parties. But the people of the West are now beginning to look into their own affairs; and, in future, will require the undivided services of their representatives; and those who fail in duty, will be compelled to yield their places to more faithful agents.

Our entire concurrence in the spirit and matter of the following Memorial and Resolutions, has induced us to adopt them as a leading article, believing that nothing which we could write would be more acceptable or profitable to our patrons:

[From the Evansville "Journal."]

MEMORIAL

To the Senate and Representatives of the United States.

It was a remark of a distinguished Senator, in the Congress of the United States, on a recent remarkable occasion, not more beautiful and appropriate than prophetic and true, "That no one could look over the face of this country at the present moment, no one could see where the population was the most dense and growing, without being ready to admit, that ere long, *America would be in the Valley of the Mississippi.*"

To those who have been observers of the rapid increase in population and power, within the last thirty years, of this section of our Union, it could not fail to have been a matter of observation as to our constant growth in all the elements which constitute a great nation, as well as a subject of speculation, what must be the result of such a progression in thirty years to come. In the first period, from the territory bordering on the waters of the Ohio and Mississippi, four great States have been added to the Confederacy—Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa and Wisconsin. Within the period of twenty years, from 1820 to 1840, the increase of population in the Western States, including Michigan, was four million two hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and forty-six. These States having in 1820, a population of one million eight hundred thousand seven hundred and eight. In 1840, five million fifty-eight thousand one hundred and fifty-four. From 1830 to 1840 the same States show an increase of two million forty-seven thou-

sand four hundred and seventy-two. Their population being in 1830, three million ten thousand six hundred and eighty-two, against five million fifty-eight thousand one hundred and fifty-four, in 1840. Taking the census of 1830 and 1840 as a guide for that of 1850, the only one we can have until the census for the present year is taken, and admitting that the increase of population has been no greater the last ten years than it was the preceding ten, we have on the first of June, in the Western States, seven million five thousand six hundred and twenty-six souls. Taking the same standard for our basis as it regards the New England, Middle, and Southern States, let us see what proportion the increase of population in the Western States will bear to the other three great sections of the country. In New England, in 1830, the population was one million nine hundred and fifty four thousand seven hundred and seventeen. In 1850, two million two hundred and thirty-four thousand eight hundred and ninety-two — increase, one million two hundred and eighty thousand one hundred and five; making the whole population of New England, in 1850, three million five hundred and fourteen thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven. In the Middle States, embracing New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware, the population, in 1830, was three million four hundred and thirty-five thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight. In 1840, four million six hundred and four thousand three hundred and forty-five, being an increase of one million six hundred and eighty-five thousand five hundred and seventy-two. Admit the *same increase* in the last ten years, and the Middle States would have, on the *first of June last*, a population of five million six hundred and seventy-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

The Southern States, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, District of Columbia, Florida, *including* their slave population, had, in 1830, four million two hundred and thirty thousand six hundred and eighty-one inhabitants. In 1840, five million one hundred and sixty-six thousand and thirty-two, the same increase for the last ten years would give them, on the first of June last, six million one hundred and one thousand four hundred and thirty-six inhabitants.

The population, then, in 1850, in these great divisions of the Republic, will probably show as follows:

Western States,	population	7,005,626
Southern States,	"	6,101,436
Middle States,	"	5,672,872
New England States,	"	3,514,923

Showing an excess of population of the Western States over the Southern, excluding Texas, of nine hundred and four thousand two hundred—and less than New England and

the Middle States, of two million one hundred and eighty-two thousand one hundred and seventy-three.

But owing to the great increase of the Western States in comparison to others for the last ten years, judging from the increase in some of them for the ten preceding ones, we think it a safe calculation to add *twenty per cent.* on the increase of the Western States for the last ten years over that of the preceding. If this is done, (and we believe the increase in some of them will be shown to be much larger than that,) the Census of the Western States will show nearly eight millions of souls, or something more than *one-third of the whole population of the United States.*

What proportion of the whole revenue of the Government expended, has been allotted to this portion of the Confederacy, is a question not easy of solution.

That it bears no proportion whatever to the amount expended in the other three great divisions of the United States, as we have classed them above, is, we think, universally admitted by even those portions which have been most largely the recipients of Government favor.

That we have been for years overlooked or neglected is apparent. That we have contributed our full proportion to the *common fund*, is not denied, and as it appears to us, it would be but a sheer act of justice to donate to us from the coffers of the Government that which of right belongs to us; and the donation of which would not only enure to our benefit but to that of our common country. That this is so let the argument which we propose to submit, and the statistics therein drawn, from *unquestionable sources*, answer.

The power, magnitude, and resources of a country consist in four things—its *Population*, *Capital*, *Communication*, and *Natural Productions and Elements*. Cities merely collect, change, and distribute them. Population, the first element of power in a State, follows the natural resources of a country. *What that is, to what it has been* in the last thirty years, we have shown above, from the tables which the Government itself has supplied us with, to wit: the census of the several years thus far taken, and the very reasonable increase allowed for that which is being taken.

The next subject to be considered is our Capital. That it has increased in the last thirty years in the West beyond any other section of the United States—that it is increasing, and will continue to increase here beyond any other portion of the Union, we think undeniable. There are circumstances surrounding us, in our midst, connected with our very being and existence, which must accumulate it *here*, in a proportion never before witnessed in any other country. These circumstances are: 1st, the great industry of our people, educated to

industrious habits under our free institutions. Secondly, the posssession of money's value in our inexhaustible agricultural and mineral resources. Thirdly, the great advantages and facilities for manufacturing.

It would be impossible in a memorial like this to show the extent of our resources in these particulars. We have not the data at hand, and must therefore confine ourselves to generalities, instead of entering into detail. The article of *Coal*, for instance, so important for consumption by our own people, so necessary for all purposes of manufacturing in the absence of water power, so indispensable for our naval and commercial marine, as now constituted forms but one part of our mineral resources, a most important one it is true, but only a part. What has the Government ever done, indispensable as it is to it, in giving us a *Geological Survey*, showing either its quantity or its quality. And yet one of their officers has within the last year estimated the amount absolutely needed for the commercial and naval marine of the Gulf in a few years, at 20,000,000 of bushels Take but a portion of our coal fields, embracing the southern and western counties of Indiana, part of Iowa, Wisconsin, and Illinois, what is commonly called the "Great Illinois Coal Field."

It equals in area the entire Island of Great Britain, extending from South-east to North-west, from Oil Creek and Rome, on the Ohio River, to the mouth of Rock River, on the Mississippi, a distance of three hundred miles; and south to north, from the waters of Green River and Treadwater, in Kentucky to the waters of little Vermillion, in Lasalle county, Illinois, a distance of three hundred and twenty-five miles. And from south-west to north-east, from St. Louis, and the waters of the west branch of Saline river, in Gallatin county, Illinois, to the forks of the Fox and Kankakee rivers, a distance of two hundred and fifty miles. A coal field occupying the greater part of Illinois, almost one-third of Indiana, a north-western strip of Kentucky, and extending into Iowa, embracing every variety of bitumenous coal. The thickness of the entire mass is supposed to be from 1,200 to 2,000 feet, and contains at least seven *workable* beds of coal. If we assume the average thickness of these coal beds, collectively at 21 feet, which is probably below the truth, and the area over which they extend, at 200 miles square, or 40,000 square miles; then we have a mass of coal on land, of which the Government is the *largest proprietor* of 23,417,856,000,000 cubic feet, or 867,328,000,000 cubic yards or tons of coal, (a cubic yard of coal being nearly equal to a ton.) Let us imagine this coal, worked, and estimating the profit in a ton of coal at fifty cents, this would give in round numbers, a clear income of $400,000,000,000, to be derived from the working of this coal field. It may also be further remarked, that the strata of this coal field is more

easily accessible along the south-eastern and south-western margins, along the *Ohio and Mississippi rivers* than toward the north-east, by reason of the extensive diluvial deposits which cover the strata in that direction. But coal comprises by no means the entire resources of these Valleys. The slaty clays contain certain extensive deposits of clay iron stone—an ore easily and profitably melted into pig iron. Great Britain produces annually 600,000 tons of iron from ore of the same quality, procured in a similar geological position. Valuable and extensive deposits of hydrated brown oxide of iron—an ore of the same kind worked in Tennessee, are also of frequent occurrence near the margin of this coal basin. The proximity of these ores to coal, greatly enhances their value, since this is the material used most frequently for their reduction. The sand stone at the base of this formation affords material for furnaces, grind stones and buildings; while some of the slaty clay, when disintegrated, produce excellent fire clay. The materials for the production of copperas and alum, are also widely distributed amongst the slate clay, under and overlaying the strata of coal. The importance of the limestone, (so abundant in the whole region,) as a flux for the iron ore, for construction, and burning into lime, are too well known to need comment.

Such are the views and opinons of this most interesting region, given us by Dr. David Dale Owen, now United States Geologist, and made at the expense of the State of Indiana, in a cursory examination of the section referred to. What we ask is a more thorough and elaborate geological survey, made by order of the Government, and embracing a much more extended sphere of the Great West. It is due to the States themselves—it is due to the Government itself. In a short time, it is to be hoped, she will be creating armories in the West, and surely, it is all-important *to her interest*, to know whether the material for such establishments are readily found in the regions where they are to be located.

The question of a full supply of those two great elements of national wealth, and national power, coal and iron, is well worth investigation, and can only be determined by a full and minute examination, made under the authority of an act of Congress. Surely, if the Government have thought it their duty to make a geological survey of the lead and copper regions of the lakes, much *higher* considerations connected with their obligation to the West, and their *own interest* require a minute and accurate survey of the coal and iron region in the Valley of the Mississippi.

The next subject to which we would call your attention, is the *natural communication* of any *one point* on the Ohio or

Mississippi rivers, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Louisville, Evansville, Memphis, St. Louis, Quincy, or Galena, with any other point on the same waters, or their tributaries. These connections are immense, and these communications between Western and South-western cities in the Valley of the Mississippi, are rapidly increasing. The effects of such communications are daily multiplying, in all directions. In order to form a better opinion of their increase, we take from the Report on Commerce and Navigation, accompanying the President's Message, and one of the documents published at the last session of Congress, the specific statement of the number of steamboats built in the United States since 1824 (twenty-five years) divided into periods of five years each.

Before so doing, however, we may be permitted to remark that while Congress very readily seems willing to appropriate any sum to the extent of the quantity and value of our *external* commerce, yet these reports are entirely silent on the subject of our *internal* commerce— a commerce vastly greater than any we have with foreign nations—and that you may look in vain through all the documents connected with our statistics as a nation, to find a single column devoted either to the *commerce* or *manufactures* of the *West*. And it is only here and there that a single table can be found which inferentially even can give you the least light upon the subject referred to.

From the documents above named it would appear that the whole number of steamers built in the United States, for the last twenty-five years, was two thousand four hundred and ninety-two—as follows:

From	1824	to	1829	194
"	1829	to	1834	204
"	1834	to	1839	504
"	1839	to	1844	521
"	1844	to	1849	969
Total,	-	-	-	$2,492

Two thousand five hundred steamboats built within twenty-five years! If we give two hundred tons as the average of these boats, and it is probably below the mark, we find that the steamboat tonnage in that period amounted to *five hundred thousand tons.*

Let us now see what part the West had in this business. From the Reports on Commerce, for the years 1846–48–49, we find in three years, the steamboats built in the West compare with the total number as follows:

	In the West.	Total in the U. S.
In 1846	130	175
In 1848	152	225
In 1850	155	208
Aggregate	437	608

Thus we see that of the whole number of steamboats built the last three years in the United States, *two-thirds* were built on the Western waters, and of this number, one-sixth were built in Ohio, and one-seventh at Cincinnati. The largest number of steamboats built at any one place, were built in Pittsburgh. In 1836 there were 143 steamboats, carrying 24,000 tons, navigating the Western waters. In the last five years there have been built 1,000 steamboats; of these 700 were built on the Western rivers. The life of a steamboat does not average more than five years. It is safe to say, then, that there are more than 800 steamboats now running on the Western waters, and, averaging their tonnage at two hundred tons each, carrying *one hundred and sixty-thousand tons of freight.*

"Here we see one element of the growth of Western commerce—a commerce whose magnitude must at an early day, surpass anything the world has yet seen of commercial development."

It is impossible to approximate to anything like the truth, in reference to our commercial statistics. We can only arrive at it by details, furnished in solitary cases, by taking our own products and value, as furnished by the Auditor's and Assessor's books in the West, and to all of which we have not, at present, access. Take the article of Pork, for instance—and the same may be said of Beef. It is out of our power to give the aggregate quantity shipped on the Western waters any one year, the amount is enormous, and would scarcely be credited if we had the figures. Some approximation, however, may be made by taking the State of Ohio as an example of the number of hogs assessed for taxes, for the last three years—in 1848 the number was 1,486,191; 1849, 1,730,466; 1850, 1,728,794; of this quantity it is fair to suppose that *two thirds* are exported. We have spoken of the connections between the different points in the valley of the Mississippi, they are immense, not less than *twenty-thousand miles* of their coast is accessible to *this point* by steamboat navigation, and the effect of these communications, on the whole West and Southwest, is daily manifesting itself. What is the result? Cities are doubling and trebling their population, farms are opening in all directions, our forests are bowing before the axe of the settler. The green sod of our prairies is everywhere broken up by the plough of the husbandmen. Our corn and wheat fields teem with the rich

abundance of their products. We are not, sa we were, a few short years since—laboring for our own sustenance—but freighting our products to every clime where American and foreign ships can carry it, and in return, receiving the products of other lands, for *our* wants, and upon which *duties* are paid *by us* to the Government, thus swelling the coffers to an amount, we venture to say, received from no other part of the Union, for there is scarcely an article subject to duty, but what enters into the consumption of the Western people, and the importation of these dutiable articles are swelling to an amount that could hardly be credited, did not the statistics of the West show that this is true. Take for instance, the imports into Cincinnati, twenty-five years since, and compare them with what they are now. We set down the value instead of the quantity.

	1826.	1848.
Coffee	$198,000	$1,080,000
Sugar	80,000	1,629,000
Brandies & Wines	200,000	500,000

And yet this is but a single point in the Valley. We presume that Pittsburgh, Louisville, and St. Louis, would show an equal, if not greater increase—and the consequence is, instead of paying duties as we formerly did at ports on the Atlantic, New York or New Orleans, our own commercial towns, are ports of entry and delivery, the duties are paid here—and the result is now, a direct importation of foreign merchandize to all the principal towns on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. These importations keep pace with our increase of population, and but a few years will elapse before the Customs here will compare favorably with many cities on the seaboard.

In former years the foreign goods imported had their duties paid at the cities on the seaboard where they were landed; they were then carried across the mountains, or up the Mississippi and Ohio, to their several destinations in the West. But the whole aspect of commerce in the West is now in a great degree changed by the change of locomotion; and it has been very justly and truly stated, "the merchants of Memphis, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh, will be as much the merchants of America, as the merchants of New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore." The growth of our cities, and the immense distribution of foreign goods here now, prove this fact conclusively: while every year the importation of foreign goods to the West directly is increasing, the table above shows what it has been to a single city, and this is but one among the great number that are to spring up in our Valley. The fact is, (and the statistical table will prove it for the

last ten years,) that the commerce of the West has grown faster than its population, great as that is.

Among the avenues which lead this population and this trade to the West and South-West, the principal ones are the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Extending with their tributaries (many of which are as navigable most seasons of the year as the streams into which they empty) a distance of twenty thousand miles, running through a region unsurpassed in the world for its agricultural products and mineral resources—running from north to south through eighteen degrees of latitude, and having on their margin and along their borders, thirteen States of the Confederacy, embracing a population five times as large as the good "old thirteen" at the first organisation of our Government.

What has Congress done for their improvement? Nothing—absolutely nothing. And these great arteries---these great "Inland Seas," which waft on their surface annually, millions of human beings, and convey on their waters an inland commerce far exceeding that carried across the Ocean by the whole domestic and foreign marine, are now, so far as navigation is concerned—so far as improvement is concerned, but little, if any, better than when the first "broad horn" floated down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers fifty years ago, and deposited her cargo of flour and whiskey, after a two months voyage, in the Spanish port of New Orleans.

The action of Congress towards the West has been heretofore of the most anomalous character. Occasionally holding out the promise of some great benefit, of some act to be done, which should promote in some degree Western interests, they have so contrived it that only some initiatory step should be taken, and then the matter has slumbered---or so worded the act conferring the benefit that it has in effect been rendered entirely nugatory. More than one example of this kind of national legislation might be given. Some seven years since an appropriation was made by Congress to locate an armory on the Western waters. What has been done since in the premises? Immediately after the appropriation was made, during President Tyler's administration, a corps of Engineers was detailed, and the Surgeon General of the United States Army attached to it, with a view, probably, of determining the exact quantity of Malaria there was at any one given point on the Ohio river. They made the recognoisance---were some four months engaged in it, presented their account and report, the first was paid, and the last now lies in the Pigeon holes of the War Department, where it probably will lay until some Cerberus of the Treasury calls for the report and account, with a view of showing the immense extravagance of the Government in their expenditures for Western improvements. For

the Armory itself, not the first dollar has been expended, nor the first stone laid. Again, Congress at its last session, not we believe, very willingly sanctioned by their act, the truly national policy, of procuring the hemp necessary for the Navy, from the American producer; thus far, something was gained; but here the act stops.

It is well known that one of the great staples of the West, is hemp. The two States of Kentucky and Missouri probably raise more hemp than all the other States in the Union. To render the policy valuable to the producer, and effective to the Government, the hemp should not only be purchased but inspected and manufactured near the place of production. "By so doing, (and there is no good reason why it should not be done,) the hazard and cost of transportation would be saved to the grower, while the Government itself would save the cost of transportation between the manufactured article and the bulky raw material.

Instead of shipping the raw material around to the Navy yards of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and Norfolk, why not erect Naval Rope Works, at points convenient to the hemp region, say at Louisville or St. Louis, where the article could at all times be easily produced, and the manufactured article could be safely shipped. No, the raw material, one of the most bulky in commerce, is shipped down the Mississippi, carried along our whole extensive seaboard, to the port of Boston; and the manufactured cordage, reshipped, and carried up the Mississippi, to supply the Navy yard at Memphis. We have merely attempted to show the narrow policy of Congress in its legislation as regards the West, by the instances enumerated. We might, if necessary, mention others not less injurious in their consequences to our growth and prosperity, if it were necessary. Those we have named, we think, are sufficient to show that Western interests are very little cared for in our National Legislature.

The next grievance to which we would call the attention of Congress, is the entire want of *Postal arrangements* in the West, fitted to furnish our citizens with those mail facilities demanded by our business and population. It would appear from the action heretofore had on the subject, either that Congress or the Postmaster General were entirely ignorant that more than one-third of the people of the United States, residing in the Valley of the Mississippi, and paying more than one-third of the whole revenue, had any need whatever of letters or papers, that they ever wrote the first or read the last; or that in any way, they were connected with other sections of the Union, from which they would be glad occasianally to hear. That our merchants and men of business, interested in an internal commerce of more than two hundred millions of dollars,

extending along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, more than two thousand miles, and their tributaries much farther, should be left to the casual chance of a way passenger on a steamboat, or the more uncertain one of a flatboat, to forward their business letters *in advance* of the mail, to their correspondents along these great streams, would hardly be credited. Yet, for the want of a more direct and certain conveyance, this is frequently the case; and we venture to say, that for want of more direct mail facilities, *one-third*, at least, of the correspondence of our business men and others, is carried out of the mails, on the western waters—that postage enough is lost to the Government, from forwarding letters otherwise than by mail, to pay all the expenses of a daily river mail, touching at every town from Pittsburgh to New Orleans. Yet, notwithstanding our constant application to Congress—our reiterated complaints for years, to the Post Office Department, who would believe that of the large sum of $2,540,000 asked for and appropriated by Congress, for the transportation of the mails within the United States, less than $50,000 is applied for the transmission of the mails by the river, from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, that there is no *river mail* from Pittsburgh to Cinncinnati, although there is a daily line of steampackets running all the year. But a *tri-weekly* mail is carried betweeu Louisville and St. Louis, and a similar one between Louisville and New Orleans. That up the Kentucky and Green Rivers, with tri-weekly packets running all the year to Frankfort and Bowling Green, no mail is carried—none on the Tennessee or the Cumberlan; making at least 1,800 miles of *inland* navigation in the most populous portion of the West, unsupplied with a river mail, and which might be supplied at comparatively a small expense, three times a week, by steamboats running on the waters. That the Post Office Department absolutely refuses to allow more than the pitiful sum of *sixty-five* dollars a *trip* unconditionally, for carrying the large mail from Louisville to New Orleans, when, for the moderate sum of *one hundred dollars a trip*, undonditionally, the best contractors in the West, on the best and fastest boats that navigate the western waters, offer to carry it *daily* and *regularly*, supplying with mail matter all the year, the whole of southern Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, eight States of the Confederacy, and fully four million of inhabitants.

Less than fifty thousand dollars applied to this great object! while Congrass lavish upwards of $1,100,000 to fit out expensive steamers, enriching beyond all calculations, a few speculators, to carry a mail to two ports on the coast, Charleston and New Orleans, thence to Chagres, and from Panama to San Francisco and Oregon. The adventurers to the first, and the Indians

of the latter, receiving mail facilities to an amount exceeding *one million* of dollars, while the whole population and business of the Valley of the Mississippi, by steam communication, gets less than fifty thousand.

But this is not all. For carrying the mail on steamers to Southampton and Bremen, an additional sum of $783,000 is annually paid by the Government; and the argument used for this immense outlay, as in the case of those carrying the mail to the Pacific, is, that they are to be turned over to the United States, "*in case of war*"—an event not very likely, as we trust, soon to take place, at least during the life of the steamers, unless, as some predict, it should happen among ourselves, in which case the contest for their possession would be between other parties; the West taking no part in the matter except as pacificators. Again, it was only at the last session of Congress, that the modest sum of $480,000 was asked for a mail line to Africa, with the avowed purpose of carrying all the free negroes out of the country, at $50 per head. The chairman of the Committee who introduced the bill, (the naval Committee) was a distinguished gentleman from the West—from the Valley itself. We feel no disposition to criticise these appropriations for foreign mail service; they may be all right; but may we not ask the honorable chairman, and especially the members of Congress from *the West*, whether one-tenth or one-twelfth of these sums granted and asked for, for an object exclusively *domestic* and nationl, for increase of mail facilities on the Western waters, when they are so much needed, would be at all extravagant? Whether, in fine, such an appropriation would not be just and meritorious under all the circumstances? So far from such an appropriation being an additional tax upon the Post Office Department, we firmly believe it would be the very best economy, insomuch as we are satisfied with additional facilities thus given for the transportation of the mails on the Western waters, the revenue of the Department would be greatly increased, and that the increased transmission of letters *by mail*, along these waters, would double the amount expended in a single year. So that viewing the question as one of policy and not of right, the Government would be the gainer in a pecuniary point of view, by granting us the facilities asked for.

Can our friends in Congress then from the North and the South be so blind as not to see that this state of things cannot be endured much longer—that unless something is done the patience of our people will be exhausted, that the promises so long held out are not fulfilled—that while we compose fully *one-third* of the whole population of the Union, and pay fully one-third of its taxes—bear *one-third* of its burdens—that there should be some *reciprocity*, some spirit of *equality* in the

distribution of the public money. Have we not suffered enough? Have we not borne it patiently? Year after year we have been knocking at the door of Congress, asking no favors but simply demanding our right. How have we been met? Year after year by a refusal—an absolute denial—and when our portion of the public patrimony has been doled out to us, has it not been with a sparing hand—like the gift of a miserly parent to an importunate child? And how has the west acted towards her sister States? Not a fortification that bristles along our coast—not a frigate that navigates the ocean—not a light house that points the path of safety to our mariners on the seaboard—not a survey of our harbors has been made, or a custom house built—but what the money which provided for the one, and built the other, has been furnished by means of Western votes. But how is it in regard to Western appropriations?—appropriations to remove the snags and sand bars, and obstructions of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers—obstructions which in a single season produce more loss than all the money ever expended by the Government on these rivers would pay for—obstructions which *this very year* have caused a loss to the West greater than the whole amount of money expended by the Government in keeping up its army or its navy. Why not a dollar can be got—and the whole commerce of the West, from Pittsburgh and St. Louis to the Gulph, runs through a gauntlet of dangers and difficulties, which no human prudence can shun, no human skill or sagacity escape; all of which might be avoided in a single year, if Congress would but expend a tithe of the money annually squandered elsewhere, without any practical purpose or useful result.

The representative from the North, who asks Congress for an appropriation to build a light ship to be stationed off Cape Cod, asked it upon the ground, "that it has a tendency to facilitate, to promote and protect the interests of commerce." It seems to us that it would be proper to apply the same rule whenever the reason of it exists, yet these legislative Solomons, seem to think otherwise, and while they would expend a half million of dollars in building light-houses in "Buzzards Bay," or placing buoys in Martha's Vineyard Sound, would deem it unwise, inexpedient, aye, unconstitutional, to remove the snags and sawyers of the Mississippi. Statesmen of such *acute* and *discriminating* minds, as to deem it perfectly *constitutional* and *right*, as has been justly said, "to light up the evening path of commerce in the East—but altogether wrong to prevent the commerce of the West from being destroyed in open daylight." We ask, then, for us only the application of a rule deemed right and proper elsewhere — to give to the commerce of the West those aids and advantages which are furn-

ished by the Government to that of the *East.* Nay, we do not ask even this—give us but a tithe of what has been expended there within the last ten years, and we shall be content. The *constitutionality* of such an appropriation by Congress, to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, for *their* improvement, it is a little too late in this middle of the ninteenth century to question. The constitutionality of such a grant has been approved of by every President for the last twenty years—sanctioned again and again by Congress, and the strictest States right man, south of Mason and Dixon's line, has *now* not a doubt upon the subject. What excuse then can Congress furnish the country for a *further* delay in making an appropriation for an object so just, so expedient, so constitutional—an object all important to the West—all important to the country. We make no boast—we intimate no threat, if *again* we are denied *this claim of right.* Again and again we have presented it to the consideration of Congress—again and again it has been refused—we have neither murmured nor threatened, at what we have conceived such gross and palpable injustice. While millions have been expended along the Atlantic coast, for purposes precisely similar to those for which we ask but comparatively a small sum, we have been silent—far from denouncing—we have not complained. Other sections of the Union, more sensitive with burdens less onerous—for causes more trifling—for neglect of their interests less apparent, would have threatened "secession." Not so with the West—at all times and under all circumstances, our people have been conservative—so far from being either "secessionists" or "disunionists"—they have but one country, one constitution, one destiny." Our attachment to the North and to the South, is equal—we view them as brethren—we are literally "bone of their bone, flesh of their flesh,"—they are our *common ancestors,* and whatever differences of opinion may have sprung up among them, in the heated controversies of the day, they may rest assured, *from us at least,* they are not separated, either in affection or interest; nor ever can be—we are too firmly united to them by other ties, than those which bind us as States—by the ties of consanguinity of blood—of kindness and mutual benefit, and advantages to both, ever to withdraw ourselves from them by *any act of ours.* To our elder brethren of the Confederacy, both North and South, who have been portioned out already to their full share of the patrimonial estate, we but ask as your younger sisters, to be placed on an equality. We have arrived at that age when we think we are entitled to something like a fair division of the common fund—a fair share of its benefits and advantages—ready now as we ever have been to return it to the common treasury of the nation, whenever the Republic requires its repayment—for when

we would ask, has *this great valley* in which we live, been niggardly of its treasure or its blood, whenever the common interests of the country required their expenditure.

In conclusion let us say—and we may say it in the true spirit of *fraternal feeling* to our brethren of the North and the South—"Our Union must not be sundered;" the golden cords which have hitherto bound us together must not be broken—our *common interests* require that there should be no secession, no disunion, for we hold the terms synonymous—not a star, not a stripe of our glorious flag must be dimmed, far less erased from that noble emblem of our common fame—our common glory—our common country. We speak what *we feel*, we speak what we *know*, from association, *is the feeling* of our *whole people*. As the Representatives of the Western States here in convention assembled we speak their *united* voice—the voice of all *sections*, of all *creeds*, of all parties, when we say that at all hazards—regardless of all consequences—"Our Union *must* and *shall* be preserved."

In view then of the facts above set forth, we would respectfully memorialise Congress at its ensuing session, to make us appropriations for the following subjects:

1st—To carry on and perfect a thorough and minute examination of the mineral region of the West, with a view to its capability for supplying the articles of *Coal* and *Iron*, so useful and necessary for manufacturing purposes—for the commercial marine of the country—and for the naval marine of th Government; and that for that purpose an appropriation be made for a scientific and geological survey to be made by some United States geologist to be hereafter elected.

2ndly—To carry out and perfect a thorough Postal arrangement throughout the Western States, and especially along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and their tributaries, so that a *daily mail* may be furnished to the towns along the first named streams from Pitsburgh to New Orleans.

3dly—To make a liberal appropriation for clearing out the snags and sawyers of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers—removing obstructions caused by shoals and sand bars—and deepening the channels of said streams, so that navigation may at all seasons be open, and the dangers and losses now submitted to, avoided.

4thly—The *inspection* and *manufacture* of the hemp purchased of the producers in the West, under the Act of the last sessoin of Congress, in the several States in which the same is purchased, instead of shipping the same East for inspection and manufacture, thereby creating a great saving to the Government, and further advancing the interest of the producer.

5thly—The establishment of one or more armories on the Western waters.

6thly—That the Senators and Representatives from the Western States in Congress assembled, be requested to use their influence in procuring the passage of such Acts as will most effectually carry out the intentions of this Convention, and secure the objects of their meeting, as set forth in the above memorial.

JOHN LAW,
C. I. BATTELL,
HAMILTON SMITH,
ELISHA EMBREE,
ISAAC HUTCHINSON
JOHN INGLE, Jr.,
M. J. BRAY.
} Committee.

On motion of A. H. Sanders, it was resolved by an unanimous vote that said memorial, in all its features, be adopted as the vote of this Convention.

Mr. Risk vacated the Chair in favor of Judge Law, for the purpose of offering the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the duty of the Congress of the United States to donate public lands to aid in prosecuting and effecting a thorough geological survey in all those States where there are large bodies of mineral land still belonging to the General Government.

Resolved, Also, that it is the duty of the Federal Government to make grants of the public Domain, to aid in establishing a school of Mines, Agriculture, Metallurgy and Chemistry. Such school to be located in some central part of the great mineral region of the West.

Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress, in view of the protection of life and property on the navigable waters of the Mississippi Valley, to institute a series of experiments on the capacity of steam-boilers—and if practicable, to ascertain the precise causes of their explosions and collapses, in order to ascertain what legislation on the subject is necessary. And in the opinion of this meeting, such experiments should be made under the direction of an united commission of scientific and practical engineers.

Resolved, That the President of this Convention appoint a committee of five, whose duty it shall be to memorialize the Congress of the United States in favor of the importance of donating a certain amount of the public lands to actual settlers.

Also, In favor of making liberal grants of the public domain, to aid in the prosecution and construction of all legitimate objects of Western internal improvement, national in their character. And:

Also, For the establishment of a scale for the graduation of the price of the public lands that will ultimately extinguish the title of the Federal Government at a given period within the several States.

Resolved, That the Government of the United States having some few years ago, instituted a series of experiments upon the character and quality of the coals of the United States, which embraced only those of the Atlantic States, it is expedient and proper, for the interests of commerce and manufactures of the States of the valley of the Mississippi, that a similar set of experiments should be made upon the material in these States.

After the reading of them, Mr. Risk addressed the Convention in their support in a brief and pertinent speech.

Hon. Hamilton Smith, being called upon, offered the following resolutions to be added to those already introduced.

Resolved, That our members of Congress be requested to advocate the appointment of a commission, to ascertain the capacity of our country and people, to compete with foreign countries in the production of fabrics of iron, copper, lead, cotton, flax, hemp, and wool, without change in the rates of capital and wages, and without the protection of a Tariff. Such commission to have full powers of obtaining all the facts and testimony on these subjects, at home and abroad, and to report in detail.

Mr. Smith then proceeded to address the meeting in a speech that elicited much applause, and from its important practical facts and statistics bearing upon the objects of the Convention, elicited the following motion, offered by John Ingle, Esq., and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That Mr. Smith be requested to furnish for publication, a copy of his remarks, so far as possible.

The previous resolutions being open for discussion, Mr. Hewitt was called to the floor, and made a few practical remarks.

He was followed by Hon. N. Albertson in a short address, warmly supporting the objects of the meeting, and alluding to his course in Congress, as a Representative from this district, as proof that there, he had on every occasion supported appropriations for Western improvements, and been instrumental with the assistance of friends at home and there, in securing to Evansville Daily Mails and a Marine Hospital appropriation.

After some other remarks by different gentlemen, the question was taken upon the resolutions, and they were adopted.

The President pro. tem. then appointed the following gentlemen as the committee demanded by one of the resolutions —Messrs. Thos. F. Risk, Hamilton Smith, John Ingle, Jr., C. I. battell, Austin Pruett.

On motion, resolved, that the thanks of this Convention be extended to the officers of the same.

Resolved, That the editors of the Journal and Republican be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting as made out by the Secretaries.

It was afterwards resolved that five hundred copies of the proceedings, memorial, &c., be published in pamphlet form, and that members of the present Congress be furnished with copies of said pamphlets.

The Convention then adjourned.

THOS. F. RISK, *President.*

A. H. SANDERS,
JOHN J. CHANDLER, } *Secretaries.*

The leading measures embraced in the foregoing resolutions, offered by Mr. Risk, having been discussed by ourselves, and others, in the Western Journal, it is but natural that their adoption should afford us a high degree of gratification. Thus endorsed by a convention, composed of men distinguished on account of their experience, ability and soundness of judgment, we cherish the hope that they will receive that careful consideration, on the part of Congress, which their importance demands.

The resolution offered by Mr. Smith contemplates an improvement in national legislation which has been greatly needed, ever since the adoption of the Federal Constitution. For it has been owing chiefly to a want of correct information relating to the capacity and cost of producing fabrics, of cotton, wool, iron, &c., in this and other countries that so much difficulty has, at all times, been experienced in the adjustment of tariff regulations.

And, besides affording facts for the guidance of the legislator, the report of such a commission, as is proposed by the resolution, would be calculated to make our resources better known, both at home and abroad; and, give to capital and labor a direction and employment more safe and profitable.

EDITORS Wes. Jour.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT SHANNON.*

Curators of the University of Missouri,
and Fellow-Citizens in general:

We live in an auspicious age, and are assembled on an auspicious occasion. *Heretofore*, the adage, "Truth is stranger than fiction," has been generally regarded as belonging of right to the regions of poetry and romance. *Henceforth* its domicil must be sought among the sober realities of business, moulded and stimulated by the unceasing and wondrous developments of science.

At the beginning of the present century, or even at a much later period, the man who might have predicted what steamboats have long since accomplished, would have been regarded at least as partially insane. And had some towering genius anticipated, and *ventured to predict*, the progress that has since been made in mental, moral, and physical science, in railroads, steamships, electric telegraphs, &c., &c., the loss of reputation, if not a place in a lunatic asylum, would have been his sure reward. In a few days, the steam engine now propels the floating palace across the broad Atlantic; while the lightning, duteous handmaid, waits her arrival, ready to waft, in a few moments, whatever intelligence she brings, to gaping crowds, throughout the limits of a vast Continent; and the sturdy railroad demands but a few days more to deposit the rich cargo on the surface of the northern Lakes, in the centre of the great Valley, on the fair bosom of La Belle Riviere, or on the majestic expanse of the Father of Waters. May we not well say, "Truth is stranger—stranger than fiction?"

Judging from the wondrous developments of the past, and the magic realities of the present, who shall fix a limit to our future progress? What gigantic intellect, angelic or human, shall calculate—or, by the utmost stretch, of imagination's creative powers, even approximate, what may be accomplish-

* This excellent Address will, we think, be found highly acceptable to all our readers; but we beg to commend it more especially to the people of Missouri. It is their interest and their duty to build up and encourage their own Literary Institutions; for it would be as reasonable to expect that the State could prosper and grow rich by relying upon other countries for bread, as to suppose that the intelligence of the people can be improved by resorting to the Literary Institutions of distant States for instruction. No other place on this green earth is so suitable for the education of our youth, as the great Valley. If we desire that their minds should grasp and comprehend the interests of this broad region, they must remain here during the season of mental debelopment, to the end, that their sympathies, as well as their intellectual views, may have room to expand, until they shall embrace not only this Great Valley but the entire Union. EDITORS.

ed by the Anglo-Saxon race within the narrow limits of the next half century! Compare our present condition with what it was within the memory of multitudes still in the prime of life, and what can fancy in her wildest flight anticipate more wonderful than the contrast; or less credible, till demonstrated by successful experiment, than the magic realities of the present hour?

Compare man, God-like man, in this terrestrial paradise, blessed with the wonderful realities of the present, and cheered with the sublime yet rational anticipations of the future — compare man, thus favored, with what he was in former ages, or what he still is in many climes, and in the savage state — on one hand, but little lower than the angels, on the other but slightly elevated above the brutes—and tell me, what creative or talismanic power has produced the magic transformation. Tell me, ye who know, that we may all understand, and appreciate the heavenly boon. 'Tis education. Education, then, be thou my theme!

I esteem it a high privilege, fellow-citizens, that I enjoy the present opportunity of holding converse with you on this important subject; and that I have the pleasurable anticipation of devoting my best energies to the advancement of this good cause in your midst. Your faith in the priceless value of education, you have irrefutably established by your works. This noble edifice, unequaled by any thing of the kind in the Great Valley, this magnificent temple of science, erected at your expense, speaks volumes in attestation of your intelligence and liberality. That a single county, in a frontier and newly settled State, and at a time of great financial depression, and general pecuniary embarrassment, should have contributed one hundred and twenty thousand dollars for the establishment of an Institution of learning, is (so far, at least, as my information extends,) unparalleled in the annals of benevolence. Most ardently do I desire, and most fervently pray, that you may yet reap an abundant reward; and that your praiseworthy example may stimulate myriads of others, emancipating their souls from the sordid idolatry of Mammon, to go and do likewise.

But, that you may be rewarded, as you deserve, in the speedy and permanent success of the University, will require united, energetic, and persevering efforts on the part not merely of the Faculty and Curators, but of this whole community, and of the State. In newly settled and sparsely populated regions, Institutions of learning, especially those of a high order, have difficulties to contend with, of which the great mass rarely form an adequate conception. But in times of high excitement on any topic, not directly subservient to education, those difficulties are of necessity greatly enhanced.

We all know how prejudicially the excitement connected with the late Mexican war, operated on institutions of learning, especially in the South and West. The blighting influence of the present *gold fever*, sweeping like a malignant pestilence through the land, throwing its unfortunate victims into the wildest delirium, and leading them in the height of the paroxysm, almost, if not quite, to imagine, that gold is godliness —is greatly to be dreaded, in its bearing on the interests of education, and upon all that is most valuable in the family, the Church, and the State.

I say these things, however, not in a spirit of despondency; but that, anticipating in part at least the difficulties, with which we shall have to contend, our energies may be the more harmoniously and successfully exerted in the removal of those difficulties; and in building up in this beautiful village an Institution devoted to education, of which not merely Columbia and Boone County, but the whole State, may justly be proud. Thus much we should aim to accomplish. With less than this we ought not to remain satisfied. Let us then, fellow-citizens, arm for the combat. And, if the eloquent signal—"England expects every man to do his duty"—inspired British tars with death-defying courage on the memorable day of Trafalgar, let the thought that our honored Commonwealth expects every man to do his duty in this nobler conflict with the powers of darkness, and in redeeming her children from the bondage of ignorance, inspire our hearts with that indomitable energy, which, in so holy and just a cause, "*never surrenders.*" Let us but do our duty like men, brave men, tried and true—as Americans, Patriots, and Christians—and the laws of Heaven must be subverted, ere we can fail of our reward.

What, then, is the duty, to the performance of which, either as principals or aids, we are thus invited? In other words, What is education?

As a matter of course, it will not be expected, that, on a subject so hackneyed, any thing new can be said, or written. The utmost to which I can reasonably aspire is, "to stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance"—to remind you of important truths, with which you may have already become familiar, as expressed on other occasions, or as the spontaneous suggestions of your own native intellect.

Educate is derived (not, as some think, from *educo*, *educere*, TO LEAD OUT,—but) from *educatum*, the supine of the Latin verb, *educo*, *educare*, which means literally to *foster*, to *maintain*, to *feed*,—and metaphorically, to *teach* or *instruct*.

In English, however, the word has established a just claim to a much more extended meaning. Hence, if I mistake not, we apply the term familiarly to the formation of any habit, as well as to the development and training of any member of the

body, or faculty of the mind. Nay, more, we can educate birds, beasts, and fishes; and I am not quite certain, that the empire of education does not include some districts, at least, of the vegetable kingdom. But our connexion with the subject, on the present occasion, only leads us to discuss it so far as relates to our own species.

Thus limited in extent, we define education to mean the development and training of man's faculties, so as to enable him to secure, in the highest degree, the great object of his existence. But what is that object? I affirm, without a moment's hesitation, that it is the highest happiness, of which he is capable. Were it necessary to argue this subject, it would be an easy matter to draw liberally for proof on the nature of man, the character of God, the adaptations of the external world, and the plain teaching of Revelation. If men fail to obtain happiness, therefore, it is not because God has so willed it, but because they have neglected to seek it in a proper way. On the argument of this question, however, we shall not now enter, regarding it wholly unnecessary to demonstrate so plain a proposition in the present enlightened age and community. We, therefore, dismiss the topic with this single remark, that a moment's reflection may suffice to show, that all our faculties, in their legitimate and healthy action, tend to produce happiness; and that it is only in their distorted and perverted action, that they produce misery. Now had the Divine Being not desired man's happiness, he certainly would have pursued a different course in his organization. He certainly would have given him some *one faculty*, at least, the natural tendency and healthy action of which was to produce misery. That he has not done so, is a striking proof of his benevolent design.

But, not to dwell longer on this subject, it will be sufficient for our present purpose to divide the human faculties into three classes, physical, intellectual, and moral. All of these are necessary, and each in its appropriate place equally necessary, for the perfection and happiness of our being. Were man deprived of any one of these faculties, he would be less perfect than he is, and God proportionably less honored in his creation.

The physical, or purely animal faculties, unite man immediately with earthly objects, and are designed principally for the propagation and sustenance of the race. The moral and religious faculties fit him for the higher duties of social life; but are mainly designed to prepare him for a future and better stateo f existence. The intellectual powers are intended to serve as a guide for the animal and moral faculties, so as to conduct them safely and wisely to their appropriate exercise and gratification. But, that these objects may be accomplished, it is indispensably necessary, that each faculty and class of

faculties, should be developed and trained in harmony with its true nature, and relative importance. The animal faculties must be developed in accordance with their real design, so as to secure a good physical constitution. The moral sentiments must be trained, so as to control the animal propensities, and impel the man to a faithful performance of his highest duties as a moral, intelligent, and social being—to an active and vigorous pursuit of "whatsoever things are lovely and of good report." The intellect must be educated so as to develop the perceptive and reflective faculties, that the feelings, which are all *blind impulses*, may thus be furnished with a competent guide in the path of truth, duty, and lasting enjoyment.

On the subject of physical education, it is at present unnecessary for me to dilate. Nature, like a kind parent, has implanted in the organization of youth, an almost irrepressible desire for muscular activity, which will generally prompt them to take as much exercise, as is necessary to secure a good constitution. The wild horse of the prairie needs not the whip or the spur,—the drudgery of the cart, or the tread-mill, to give him strength of muscle, agility of limb, or symmetry of form. It is undoubtedly true, that moderate exercise is necessary to develop and strengthen every organ and faculty, whether mental or corporeal, and thus to secure the priceless boon—"*mens sana in corpore sano*"—a sound mind in a sound body. But it by no means follows, that toilsome labor is necessary to that end, or even conducive thereto; or that it does not, on the contrary, enfeeble both mind and body, by the over-action, and consequent exhaustion of the vital energies. I have long been of opinion, that much of what has been said, and written, to prove, that *labor* or *toil* is necessary for the enjoyment of health and vigor, is manifestly illogical. The fallacy evidently consists in ascribing to *excessive action*, the results that are properly attributable only to *moderate exercise*. In my opinion, it will very rarely be necessary to stimulate youth to a greater exertion of the physical powers, than they will be disposed to make, under the promptings of natural impulse, if not improperly restricted. Occasional exceptions, however, there may be; and such cases should by all means receive prompt and judicious attention. But on this topic, it is unnecessary for me to expatiate; especially as my grand object, on the present occasion, is to contemplate man as an intelligent, moral agent, and, in that view, to take a hasty glance at the proper training of his intellectual and moral faculties.

Permit me to introduce, in this connection, an extract from my Inaugural Address, delivered before the Trustees of Bacon College in 1840.

On the subject of intellectual education, much has been said, and written, and considerable diversity of opinion prevails to the present day. With many, if I mistake not, it is a favorite sentiment, that children should be educated mainly, if not exclusively, in those departments of knowledge, in which they are by nature fitted to excel.

That this sentiment, by far too popular, is altogether erroneous, and of a tendency mischievous in the extreme, I hesitate not to affirm. What would be thought of a man, who should take no care of his lungs, and assign as the reason, that by nature they were weak, and predisposed to consumption; whilst, at the same time, he was lavish in his attentions to other parts of the system naturally vigorous? What would you think of a mother, who expended all her care in efforts to improve the health and strength of those children, that were by nature strong and healthy; and who, meanwhile, utterly neglected such as were feeble? Would not such conduct be universally pronounced insane and monstrous? And, yet, to my mind it appears not a whit more unnatural and absurd, than to devote all our energies to the development of those faculties in our children, which are naturally strong, to the entire neglect of such as are weak. A course of conduct directly opposite to this, is that which nature would dictate, and reason sanction.

But I have a still stronger objection to this unnatural course. Its tendency is extremely mischievous. That character is the most perfect, in which all the faculties, whether physical, intellectual, or moral, are developed harmoniously, and in due proportion. Every deviation from this balance, and harmony of all the faculties, is a blemish, and tends directly either to partial idiocy, or partial madness. Hence it will be found, that maniacs, among the educated, consist chiefly of those, whose lives have been devoted to the cultivation of a few prominent organs, whilst the others have been mainly neglected. Dr. Connolly states, that, in the Bicetre, "maniacs of the more educated classes consist almost entirely of priests, artists, painters, sculptors, poets, and musicians; while no instance, it is said, occurs of the disease in naturalists, physicians, geometricians, or chemists."

Now when we add to the foregoing considerations, the well established truth of the hereditary transmission of qualities, we will see, that the course in question is well calculated to produce, at least in a few generations, a race of idiots and maniacs. A practice, so absurd in itself, and so mischievous in its tendency, never could have obtained currency among rational beings, had they not been immersed in gross ignorance in relation to the true philosophy of mind, and its manifestations, as connected with material organs.

The Creator has given to man no redundant faculty—none that is not indispensable to the perfection of his nature, and to the attainment of his highest dignity and enjoyment. Hence, when, from any cause whatever, the harmony and balance between our various powers is destroyed,—the deformity is increased still more by strengthening those faculties, which relatively are already too strong, and neglecting to cultivate those, that are too weak. On this point, time will not permit me to enlarge.

The design of intellectual education, then, may be regarded as two-fold.

First, and mainly, to develop and strengthen the faculties educated; so that the individual may thereby be prepared to think and act for himself.

Secondly, to store the memory with useful knowledge for the purpose of practical application in the business of life.

The latter object seems to be regarded by many as the main, if not the only business of education. The former, however, is by far the most important. We may suppose a man to have treasured up in the store-house of memory all the knowledge of the universe, and yet be in a high degree uneducated. He may neither be able to form correct opinions of his own, nor to turn to any valuable account the borrowed opinions of other men. In short, he may be one who, in common phrase, possesses, "every sense but common sense." Lacking this, he is comparatively of little use in society, and, although he may be regarded by the unthinking as possessing a good education, by the wise he must ever be viewed as in reality badly educated. In reference to just such characters, how appropriate, and how expressive the remark, that "Scholars are frequently met with who are ignorant of nothing—except their own ignorance."

A store of knowledge is unquestionably good, if the possessor can make it valuable by turning it to good acconnt. But the well-balanced, and thoroughly disciplined mind, which can form correct opinions of its own, and discern clearly between what is true and false in the opinions of others, is undoubtedly far better.

To strengthen the mind, then, should be the primary, and to store it with useful knowledge the secondary object of intellectual education; a due regard meanwhile being had to the preservation of a proper balance throughout the sys em, by laboring most to strengthen those faculties, that most need to be strengthened.

Ten years have well-nigh elapsed since the foregoing views were first laid by myself before the American public; and my conviction of their truth and importance has but increased with extended observation and reflection. If they are true, it is

obvious, that it would not be an easy matter to over-estimate their practical importance. And it is equally obvious, that multitudes have ever labored, and do still labor under mischievous delusions on this topic.

I consider it unnecessary at present to call your attention to the particular subjects of study, that ought to be introduced into a collegiate course of education. On this item there exists a very general harmony of opinion. But, let the subjects of study, be what they may, I have uniformly maintained, both in theory and in practice, during an educational career of more than thirty years, that they should invariably be studied and taught in such manner, as to compel the student to think for *himself*, and exercise *his* reflective faculties to the best advantage.

"Nullius addictus jurare in verba magistri"'—Bound to swear in the words of no master—is a sentiment, that is sustained alike by the highest sanctions of reason and of revelation. Young persons should be invariably educated to think and investigate for themselves on all subjects—to call no man Master—to prove all things, and hold fast that which is good.

The popular system of pedagoguery, which teaches almost every subject by question and answer, is well calculated to defeat the grand object of education. By making the study a mere exercise of memory, it degrades human beings from their exalted rank, as intelligent moral agents, to that of apes and parrots. Hence it is, that among the so-called educated, we have so few original and independent thinkers,—so many apes, or servile imitators—and so many parrots, or mere repeaters of the opinions of other men.

He is not the best educated, who can repeat correct answers to the greatest number of questions on any given subject; but he whose mind has been most thoroughly disciplined, to self-dependance and close thinking. Minds thus disciplined are not compelled to rely for their opinions on authors and lexicons; but are qualified to become in matters of science and literature, their own authors; and, in matters of philology, their own Lexicographers. To such minds alone are we indebted for our present stupendous ability to annihilate time and space, by making the steam-car our porter, and the lightning our obedient messenger. And to such alone must we still look for future, and yet more valuable acquisitions of territory in El Dorado, the golden terra incognita of discovery and invention.

When we thus contemplate the wondrous power of educated mind—when we survey the brilliant trophies of that power, with which on all hands, we find ourselves surrounded, and the magic prospect of new trophies no less brilliant, that opens up to our enraptured vision in the vista of the future, shall not

our own highly favored Commonwealth feel, that she is called upon by every ennobling consideration to act a part, that shall be worthy of her central and commanding position in this great American family of confederated Republics? Let all hearts be united—"public men and private citizens"—in this noble work, and our own loved University must flourish, and become ere long the pride of the State. In this labor of love for the benefit of humanity, all may, and should unite. All can so unite without any sacrifice of principle, or even of feeling. Literature and Science are in the highest degree, catholic in their nature and tendencies. They scorn to be appropriated exclusively to any sect in religion, or party in politics—desiring ever to remain, as God designed them to be, the common heritage of all. Let all, then, rally to their support; as patriots of every creed unite to maintain and defend our Constitutions, State and Federal, the broad ægis of whose glorious protection extends alike over the common rights of all our citizens.

But on the subject of intellectual education, the few fleeting moments, with which alone I can be indulged, on the present occasion, will not allow me expatiate.

Permit me then, fellow citizens, to call your attention very briefly, to education in its noblest form, viz., that of the moral faculties. From even a brief survey, we may readily perceive, that the education of the heart is as far superior to that of the head, as man is to the brute, or as eternity is to time. In the language of the Inaugural aforesaid:—

Did man possess no higher faculties, than those of intellect he would be at best but a reasoning brute; and the education of his intellectual powers would only capacitate him to be more extensively mischievous to the human race. How fearful the ravages, that would naturally ensue! And yet, it is most obvious, that those ravages would not be worse, nor the desolations more fearful, in the grovelling attitude of the brute, than if that attitude were exchanged for man's erect and noble form. * * * * Hence, when intellect alone is educated, and the religious faculties wholly neglected, or abused, a class of monsters is produced, which for the sake of distinction, may be called human brutes—the Napoleons, the Murrels, the Dantons, the Marats, and the Robespierres of our race, the scourge and curse of mankind—differing from actual brutes, from lions and tigers, mainly in being accountable, and in possessing superior intellect, which capacitates them to commit ravages so much the more fearful, and to spread havoc and desolation to a more alarming extent. Whereas, had the moral organization of these men been properly educated, they might have shone conspicuously among the most distinguished benefactors of the human race, might have been, as immortal in honor, as they are now in infamy,

might have lived unspeakably blessed themselves, and the source of unnumbered blessings to their fellow-men.

From these reflections, it must be obvious, that, were there no hereafter, and were our highest hopes and aspirations confined to the present life—still, the grand point in education would be the proper training of the moral sentiments. Better neglect every thing else in education, than this. Nay, if this be neglected, the less intellect men have, and the less that intellect is cultivated, the better. However startling and extravagant, at first view, this sentiment may appear to some, it is but a corollary to the proposition, that lions and tigers are less mischievous and miserable in their own nature, than they would be with the superadded intellect of man. * * * * Whether, therefore, revelation be true, or untrue—whether there be, or be not a future state of rewards and punishments, such as the Bible discloses—still it is undeniably plain, that in the great business of education, even with an exclusive reference to human happiness in this life, a proper moral and religious training is the grand and all important interest, the one thing needful. But it is no less plain, that the Bible, in its doctrines and precepts, its hopes and fears, rewards and punishmenst, is the only perfect and infallible guide to the attainment of this grand object.

To the American statesman and patriot, this topic assumes an attitude of peerless importance. Our unparalleled blessings of civil and religious liberty result not so much from the form of our free institutions, as from the intelligence and virtue, which are their indispensable support. For a people like ours, human wisdom perhaps never devised a better Constitution than that which, by the blessing of Heaven, unites our great confederacy of free and sovereign States. And it is utterly vain to rely upon them for the perpetuity of our freedom, any farther than as they are sustained by the general intelligence and virtue of our citizens.

On this subject President Wayland remarks—"For beings who are willing to govern themselves by moral principle, there can be no doubt, that a government relying on moral principle is the true form of government. There is no reason why a man should be oppressed by taxation, and subjected to fear, who is willing to govern himself by the law of reciprocity. It is surely better for an intelligent and moral being to do right from his own will, than to pay another to force him to do right. And yet, as it is better, that he should do right than wrong, even though he be forced to it, it is well, that he should pay others to force him, if there be no other way of insuring his good conduct. God has eendered the blessing of freedom inseparable from moral restraint in the individual: and hence, it is vain for a people to expect to be free, unless they are first willing to be virtuous."—*Mor. Sc. p.* 355.

To which give me leave to add a short extract from the farewell address of the illustrious Washington: "Of all the dispositions and habits, which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness—these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connexion with private and public felicity. Let it be simply asked, where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect, that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle. It is substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. The rule indeed extends with more or less force to every species of free government. Who, that is a sincere friend to it, can look with indifference upon attempts to shake the foundation of the fabric?"

If the foregoing sentiments be true, (and in the present enlightened age, the man would be considered demented, who would seriously call their truth in question,) then, indeed, it would be difficult to over-estimate the importance of the proper education of the moral feelings.

It is in this connexion, that the superlative value of the Christian Scriptures, in the work of education, becomes almost self-evident. As well might you expect to support animal life without food, as to maintain pure and permanent morality in any community without the Bible. Compare the condition of these United States, physical, intellectual and moral, with that of Italy, Spain, or France. To what is our superiority, in everything that involves true dignity and enjoyment, to be ascribed, if not to our greater familiarity with the Bible, and our superior reverence for the teachings of that Holy Volume? In every department of education, therefore, from the nursery to the common school, the Academy, and the College—the Bible, and especially the New Testament, is of indispensable importance.

Some timid people, however, are alarmed, lest if the Scriptures be admitted into educational establishments, they will be perverted to the vile purpose of sectarianism. That they may be so perverted cannot be denied. So may every thing good and holy in the Universe. But this enlightened audience needs not to be informed, that the argument against the use, from the abuse, either actual, or possible, is a sheer sophism.

In this instance the objection overlooks the fact, that whatever belongs to the essence of Christianity is not sectarian, but catholic in its nature and tendencies. The Bible is not a sectarian, but a catholic book; and he would be wholly unworthy to be trusted with the business of education, who would even desire to pervert it to sectarian purposes. Nay, more, he would manifest a profound ignorance of the spirit and power of Christianity. The very essence of piety, under every dispensationof religion, consists in a supreme regard for the divine authority. Consequently, if any individual believes and acts religiously in a particular way, simply because I believe, and act thus, he is worshipping me, and not God; and, therefore, his religion, no matter what may be his zeal in its maintenance, possesses all the elements of idolatry. A spirit of proselytism may be, and not unfrequently is, directly opposed to a spirit of piety. It always is so opposed, when it even encourages an individual to join our Church, except so far as he is impelled thereto by an intelligent conviction of duty. The language of piety is—"Deny yourself. Call no man, Master. Prove all things. Hold fast that which is good." The language of Proselytism is—Go with me, and I will show you a lucrative, an easy, or a fashionable road to Heaven.

Impress upon the minds of men a supreme and self-sacrificing regard to the divine authority, as absolutely indispensable to the enjoyment of the divine favor, and you have done all that man can do to preserve them from a sectarian spirit.

If the foregoing views be not wholly erroneous, it is manifest, that every system of education, which does not regard Christianity, as the one thing needful, is radically defective, and pernicious in its tendency. The Scriptures alone "are able to make men wise unto salvation"—to conduct them to the perfection of their being—to the highest attainable dignity and happiness of this world, and to the glory inconceivable and everlasting in the world to come.

Every seminary of education, therefore, should be conducted with an abiding regard for the paramount authority of the Christian Scriptures. The evidences, that Christianity is from God, should be thoroughly examined, and taught. Its morality also, and its motives, its precepts and its promises, should be habitually and distinctly impressed upon the minds of the students. Reading the Scriptures and prayer, should form a part of the daily exercises. There is nothing sectarian in all this; and in much more, that might be specified. At the same time, enlightened piety, no less than common prudence, will require the teacher in even a private school, and still more in a public seminary, to abstain from the official inculcation of sectarian peculiarities.

I rejoice to think, that the correctness of these views is now generally admitted. Even in Girard College,—into the precincts of which no ecclesiastic can ever be admitted without a violation of the will of the founder—the Trustees have recognized, in the management of the Institution, the soundness of the foregoing principles. In this they have acted wisely, for no seminary of learning can flourish—none ought to flourish—that aids in propagating the miserable delusion, that the proper training of the moral sentiments, is not the chief business of education; or that this training can be successfully conducted, except in harmony with the sublime, the heavenly precepts and principles of the Christian religion.

Towards the close of the last century, in the most literary and polished nation then in existence, an attempt was made to dispense with the Bible. With what success, let the appalling scenes of the "Reign of Terror," which baptized Paris in the best blood of her citizens, bear witness. Forewarned, it would indicate a most extraordinary lack of common prudence not to avoid a rock, on which others have so fearfully made shipwreck.

Fellow citizens, you see the high and holy work, that lies before us. The occasion is auspicious. To-day we celebrate the seventy-fourth anniversary of American Independence. Natives of America, not a few, still live, who were born under the British yoke; others, more numerous, who heard the roar of hostile cannon; and some, who were even old enough to take part, at least, in the closing scenes of the revolutionary struggle. In this short period of three score years and fourteen, how marvellous the change. Thirteen feeble colonies, bravely contending for their rights, in an unequal, and almost hopeless contest with the colossal power of Great Britain, have grown into a gigantic confederacy of thirty free and sovereign States, the hope and admiration of the world. A population of three millions has increased more than seven fold. Our cultivated territory, which was then confined to a narrow belt on the Atlantic slope, now extends from the Rio Grande to the Great Lakes, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. On all sides flourishing towns, villages, and cities spring into existence, as if by magic; whilst the landscape is dotted with fair temples of religion and science, to cheer the eye, enlighten the mind, and purify, ennoble, and gladden the heart. The swelling tide of population carrying on its heaving bosom Anglo-Saxon arts, enterprise, and civilization, has dashed its ocean billows against the firm base of the Alleghenies—heaved its foaming surges over their cloud-capt summits—inundated and ertilized the illimitable domain of the Father of Waters—and rolling on, still on, in its resistless course, across the Great Desert, over to the Rocky Mountains, through Utah's boundless

plains, and over Nevada's snowy heights, has at length discharged its impetuous floods into the startled Pacific. The sluggish waters of this vast ocean, with its unnumbered islands, have been lashed into unwonted activity; and the "Golden Gates" of Ophir have been re-opened to a commerce that must ere long become such as earth never saw,—whose electric currents, encircling the globe, and penetrating even to the inmost recesses of the "celestial empire," are destined to galvanize into new life its torpid millions. May we not well exclaim—"What hath God wrought." "Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."

Fellow citizens, no other people was ever blessed as we are in these United States. But let us never forget, that our obligations are commensurate with our blessings. The hopes of down-trodden and degraded humanity, under God, centre in us. Heaven has, no doubt, raised up this American Israel for sublime purposes of good to the human race. Who can doubt, that a glorious day, by prophets long foretold, is about to dawn upon the world. Who can doubt, that the regeneration of degraded humanity devolves mainly upon us; and that we may lawfully aspire to the peerless honors of the God-like enterprise. Who can estimate our powers for the accomplishment of this noble work. When our territory on the Pacific shall have been filled up with such a population as is even now found in the Atlantic and Valley States—such a population, as our Institutions alone have made, and can make—when the gold of Ophir shall have been poured into the treasury of that people, and their power been infinitely increased by the progress of arts and sciences, literature and Christianity—of railroads, electric telegraphs, and steamships—if we are but true to ourselves, and to our exalted position, what may we not accomplish for the regeneration of the world, even before the close of the present century.

But, if we would prove worthy of our high calling, literary, political, and religious, and thus be true to ourselves, and to the best interests of humanity, we must labor to maintain and perpetuate our glorious Institutions, not by hollow professions of attachment, but by cultivating to the utmost of our ability, that intelligence and virtue, which are their indispensable support.

Let the heartless, selfish demagogue, for the gratification of an ignoble ambition, flatter the "dear people" with the hypocritical profession of a patriotism, which he never felt. But let every true American heart, every real patriot, prove his faith by his works—demonstrate the reality of his patriotism, by practising, and promoting, as best he may, that righteousness, which "exalteth a nation," and fleeing from that sin, which "is a reproach to any people." Let the moral and

intellectual culture of our citizens, especially of the rising generation, receive a proper attention, and we may reasonably anticipate a destiny truly sublime—sublime in the perpetuity and progress of our unrivalled Institutions—sublime in the univeral overthrow of despotism, whether civil or religious—and sublime especially in the introduction of that prophetic age, when "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks." When "nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more."

"O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord."

ART. III.---THE SIGN-LANGUAUGE OF THE PRAIRIE INDIANS.

An account of the language of signs in use among the roving tribes of Indians who inhabit the great plains between our western frontier and the Rocky Mountains, I have thought might interest some of the readers of the Western Journal; and, I have, accordingly, drawn up the following sketch from personal observation during the summer of 1849, and the spring of 1850.

The Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Kiawas, Comanches and other wandering tribes, have in use among them a system of sign-language which is so perfect that they are able to converse in it with a facility almost beyond belief to one who has never seen it used. I have seen conversations carried on between two men, (who would not have understood one word of the spoken language of either,) for two hours at a time, without one word being pronounced—these signs being used instead of oral language—and from what could be gathered from the signs used, and from the coherent and intelligible explanations they gave of the conversations afterward, I was assured that the *actors* understood each other almost as well as if each had been listening to his mother tongue.

As might be expected of a system originated, as this has been, among a people in a state of nature, it is simple and inartificial, each sign having generally a very clear reference to the thing spoken of, and this simplicity facilitates the acquisition of its use so much that it requires but a short time to acquire it. But notwithstanding the fact that it is simple and inartificial, it is not so deficient in scope and fullness as would at first be supposed, for I have been assured, by traders who have lived for years among them, that in a year's residence

among them, a man would hardly be under the necessity of speaking a word, except the name of a tribe, a river or something of that kind, provided he was well skilled in this sign-language.

The following will illustrate the connection between the signs used and the thing referred to:

Sleep or night are indicated by letting the head fall on the hand on one side, with the eyes shut, and each time the head is inclined indicates a night.

Time of day, by pointing to the place of the Sun's rising and then moving the hand round to the point the Sun occupies at the hour they wish to indicate.

Speaking, by raising the back of the hand to the mouth with one or two fingers pointing forward, the lips then move as in talking and the hand is advanced.

A horse is meant when the hands are raised to each side of the head with the palms forward, and then moved backward and forward like the movements of the forefeet of a horse in galloping.

Riding is understood when the forefinger and middle finger of the right hand are straddled across the forefinger of the left hand, and then the sign for a horse is made.

Killing a man is shown by running the finger round the crown of the head as if in taking off a scalp.

Water to drink, is indicated by moving the hand as if pouring something into the mouth.

Coffee, by the same process, with the addition of rubbing the back of the left hand with two fingers of the right. This I am told means literally *blackwater*.

Whiskey is wanted when they close all of the hand except the thumb and forefinger, which are opened as if holding a glass, when the hand is moved as if turning up a cup to drink.

Many more might be given, but these are considered sufficient for the present.

One evening an Indian came to the camp and asked in signs for something to eat, and when he had satisfied his appetite, a Mexican of our party commenced a conversation with him in their signs, and for more than an hour it was kept up without a word being spoken except the names of the tribes of Indians they spoke of, or the word Americano, when speaking of white men.

Any one who knows anything of Indian dialects is aware that they contain many more difficult sounds than European languages, and that almost all of them are so curiously constructed as to require near a lifetime to learn to speak one of them at all correctly, and this may account for the adoption of such a system or language as this, instead of selecting one of their dialects to become the common language of all, but

we cannot but be surprised at finding among the untutored savages of the desert, such a monument of patience and ingenuity. While learned and polished Europeans can hardly leave their own firesides without being compelled to learn another language in which to make known their simplest wants, the homeless wanderer of the American desert finds his mute language understood by every tribe he meets, from Texas to British America.

SAINT LOUIS, DEC. 12, 1850.

ARTICLE IV.—ROUTE TO SANTA FE, COUNCIL GROVE, &c.

We are indebted to Geo. C. Sibley, Esq., of St. Charles County, Mo., for a copy of the Report of the Commissioners, appointed by the President of the United States, under an Act of Congress, approved 3d March, 1825, authorizing a road to be marked out from the Western frontier of Missouri to the confines of New Mexico. This report abounds with many facts that would doubtless be interesting to our readers; but as they are interwoven with the details connected with the execution of the commission, we have only selected a few of those which appear worthy of being preserved as proper matter for the historian.

The following note, by Mr. Sibley, at the end of the report, is highly worthy of preservation:

BIG JOHN'S SPRING—COUNCIL GROVE—DIAMOND OF THE PLAIN.

It will be none amiss to write a word of explanation here, about the original christening or naming of those three famous places, so well known on the "Santa Fe road."

And first as to Council Grove—It was here that the Mexican Road Commissioners, with their train of forty men, Surveyors, Secretary, Interpretors, Hunters, Guard, &c., met the chiefs and head men of the Osages in Council, (agreeably to previous arrangement) and concluded and signed a treaty securing the right of way and permanent use of the road through the territory claimed by those tribes. After the completion of this formality, and the Indians had departed perfectly content, (August 12, 1825) it was suggested by G. C. S. to have the name of the place, as inserted in the treaty, carved in large and legible characters on the trunk of a venerable White Oak tree that stood and flourished near the entrance of our council tent, and also to add the date and distance from Fort Osage. Colonels Reeves and Mather readily assented,

and Capt. S. Cooper was directed to have it promptly executed. Capt. C. employed a young man of the party known to be remarkably expert in *lettering* with his pen knife and tomahawk, by name John Walker, commonly called in camp "*Big John*," in reference to his gigantic size, who executed the order very neatly and substantially—thus "Council Grove" came to be the name and designation of the place. These particulars are here written for the more particular purpose of prefacing the following correction of a silly romancing story palmed as a good joke I suppose, upon some ignorant credulous traveler; to the affect that "Council Grove" has been from time immemorial, the name of the place—that the ground for miles around was sacred to peace, and for ages has been the general resort of the Indian tribes far and wide: there, to meet in grand council, smoke the calumet, settle their disputes, bury the tomahawk, and establish peace and harmony. In the Sandy Prairie adjacent to "The Grove," there are innumerable hillocks, thrown up by the gophers and large ants — these were pointed out to our credulous traveler, who was evidently all agape for wonders, as the graves of those who, from age to age, had died while attending council here, and had been deposited in this sacred neutral refuge—or, which is quite probable, the gentleman required but a bare hint from those who were quizzing him, to convert those ant and gophir hills into the graves of mighty chiefs and warriors, and so record it in his Journal. Our traveler first published his Fancy Sketch, or rather Description and History of "Council Grove," in an Evansville paper, as I remember: the thing was prettily written, and its romantic character took the public fancy right well, and passed pretty extensively through the papers of the day: and for aught that I know, may by this time have found its way into some of the flimsy book literature that now floods the land. Such is the substance of the false and delusive tale that has been circulated and doubtless by many believed, concerning the "Council Grove." It ought to have been corrected promptly; and I take the blame to myself for not doing it long ago. My repugnance to "*appearing in the papers*" I suppose, prevented me at the most proper time; and subsequently it passed from my mind and was forgotten. I am well aware that in this very way many false and foolish, and sometimes injurious statements, are palmed off upon the public and the reading world at large, in relation to the Indians and the Indian country. As a general truth it may be said, that the public mind has been sadly misled and *indelibly prejudiced* on this very interesting subject—much to the injury of the poor devoted Indians. The story I have alluded to can never *harm* the Indians certainly, and is innocent, I presume, of any consciousness in the publisher, of any thing wrong

whatever. But it surely *is* wrong even thus to mislead the public about a locality and name: because the error is sure to be interwoven into some future "authentic history" of our western Indians, &c. There is quite enough of this intolerable sort of nonsense already on our bookshelves: the tendency of which has been to deprive our history, geography, &c., of the true designations, and their origin, of the rivers, mountains, prairies, and noted places, such as mounds, (Barrows as they are called,) lakes, &c., that abound on our continent; and had their appropriate names long before the white man found his adventurous way hither.

The date, origin and circumstances of the name "Council Grove" are precisely as I have stated them—previously to that date no Indian or any other Council had ever been held there. The place never had been used particularly, for resort even by the Osages, much less by any other tribes. Not a single Indian grave exists there, or within many miles of the place. The venerable, sacred character with which it has been invested, is all a fiction—not one word of truth about it. It is quite a pretty place, and would afford some dozen or two of small farms up and down the creek from our Council Oak.

"Big John" Walker first discovered the remarkably fine spring that bears his name. He was one of a small party that accompanied me in the summer of 1827 for the purpose of correcting the previous survey of the road, and to mark it where necessary by heavy mounds of sod, &c.

Walker found the spring on the 13th of June, 1827, brought me some of the water (our camp was near by) and asked me what name it should have. I directed to cut in large letters "Big John's Spring" on a Big Oak that grows near it. He laughed, and with his knife and hatchet soon performed the work in excellent style. This Spring is on Gravel Creek, short of two miles easterly from Council Grove. It was discovered on my return from my correcting tour, after we had been *sixteen miles* beyond the Grove.

The Diamond of the Plain. This *treasure* was, in fact, discovered first by "Old Ben Jones," a hunter of our first party, on the 11th August, 1825. It is thus noted in my "Pencil Sketches," at the time. "This Spring gushes out from the "head of a hollow in the prairie, and runs off boldly among "clean stones into Otter Creek, a short distance—it is very "large, perfectly accessible, and furnishes the greatest abun- "dance of most excellent, clear, *cold* water—enough to supply "an army. There is a fountain, inferior to this, in the Arabi- "an Desert, known as "The Diamond of the Desert." This "magnificent Spring may, with at least equal propriety, be "called *The Diamond of the Plain*. We found it a most ex- "cellent camping place. A fine Elm tree grows near to and

overhangs the Spring." On the 10th and 11th June, 1827, I encamped here with my party (as above noted)—during our stay I made requisition of "Big John" and his carving implements once more, to inscribe on the stooping Elm "Diamond of the Plain"—which was promptly done—the tree has since been cut away I believe. The fountain is now generally known as "The Diamond Spring. GEO. C. SIBLEY.

April 1, 1839.

The commissioners were Geo. C. Sibley, B. H. Reeves, and Thomas Mather. They set out from Osage on the 17th of July, 1825, and arrived at the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, on the 11th of September, where they expected to meet commissioners from Mexico; but as none appeared, and, having no authority to proceed with the survey through the Mexican territory it was agreed by the commissioners that Mr. Sibley should proceed to Santa Fe with a small party, and that the other commissioners should return to Missouri. The parties separated on the 22d September; and Mr. Sibley arrived at San Fernando on the 30th October. But it was not until the 16th of June, 1826, that he received any authority from the Mexican Government to act in the premises; and this only authorised him to examine a route, prohibiting him from marking,or cutting out a road,or, establishing any work whatever. On the 20th August, 1824, Mr. Sibly commenced a survey at San Fernando, and run it through the Mexican territory, connecting it with the survey made by the commissioners, the preceding year, east of the Mexican boundary. Mr. Sibley reached Missouri in the fall of 1826, but returned to the plains again in the spring of 1827, for the purpose of making corrections in the survey east of the Mexican boundary.

The Report contains a table of distances between more than fifty points on the route, from which we have selected a few of the more prominent. The table commences at Fort Osage, 15 miles below Independence, thence to the western boundary of the State, Latitude, 38 deg. 54 min., longitude, 94 deg. 17 min., 31 miles; to Council Grove, latitude, 38 deg. 40 min., longitude, 96 deg. 12 min.—139 miles; to Diamond Spring, 155 miles; Nee-o-zho Cr. (Cotton Wood Fork,) 185 miles; Turkey Creek, 209; Little Arkansas, 225 miles; Arkansas river, lat., 38 deg. 11 min., long., 98 deg., 259 miles; Walnut Creek (north bend of the Arkansas river,), lat., 38° 21', 269 miles; south bend of Arkansas river, at Mulberry Creek, lat., 37° 38'; United States and Mexican boundary, lat., 37 deg. 47 min., lon., 100 deg., 385 miles; crossing of the Arkansas, 424 miles; Choteau's Island, 444 miles; Lower Semeron Spring, 477 miles; Middle Semaron Spring, 514 miles; Upper Semaron Spring, 553 miles; Rabbit Ear's Creek

and Mountain, lat., 36 deg. 40 min., 602 miles; Pi'ot Mountain, 617 miles; Point of Rocks, 647 miles; Canadian river, (ford) 668 miles; Foot of Great Mountain Range, 710 miles; Summit of dividing ridge, 727 miles; San Fernando, (valley of Taos) 745 miles; Santa Fe, lat., 35 deg. 41 min., 810 miles, or 795 miles from Independence, Missouri.

We insert from the London Agricultural Gazette, the following and succeeding lectures on Scientific and Practical Agriculture, which, from the simplicity of the language in which they are expressed, and their general utility to the farmer, we trust will be acceptable to a large proportion of our readers:

ART. V.—AMERICAN AGRICULTURE, No. 1.

The soil and the air, in connexion with agriculture, have no immediate bearing upon their daily pursuits; and whether the influences which thus affect the practice of the farmers be capable of satisfactory explanation or not, the practice and profit of their own individual occupations will remain precisely as they hitherto have been—undisturbed by those particular truths which our subject includes. This subject, however, I am persuaded, is not the less appropriate on that account for general consideration. It is one of general interest, not only because the air we all breathe and the soil we all tread cannot, but in some measure, affect us all alike, but because the usefulness of knowledge of this, as on every other subject, is not measurable by the pounds-shillings-and-pence scale, which would confine it to those cases exclusively where a money result depends upon the possession of it. There is a usefulness besides that which immediate profit measures; and though the agriculturist should not, and others could not, earn the more because they know the more of the air and the soil in connection with the art of cultivation, yet such knowledge is beneficial to all as well as an addition to mental if not to material wealth—as food for the mind, which, like the body, can live only by appropriate nourishment—as matter for pleasurable thought, from which, as from all other topics, we may usefully draw the unfailing inference regarding the wisdom, skill and power, and goodness which creation everywhere exhibits.

But if the soil and the air, in connection with agriculture, may reasonably claim the attention of all, it seems to force itself upon that of the farmer, and it is in that aspect of the subject, almost exclusively, in which it appears to him, that I

have now to ask your attention. It certainly must have sometimes occurred to those who cultivate the ground and superintend the growth of crops, to ask where these crops all come from. Do you think that they come out of the land—from the soil on which they grow? Let us just consider this question in detail. Take the case of a forest of trees. Did all that wood come out of the soil? Suppose a man to plant an acorn in a piece of clay land and watch its growth. He sees the shoot and the young tree increasing in size, and if he should live long enough, he would ultimately see the old tree with its trunk, its branches, and its twigs, containing perhaps 40 or 50 tons' weight of wood—a result of the life which was resident in that little acorn. Where did it get that wood? The roots of the oak grow downwards in the earth to a great depth—do they find its woody matter there? They also spread on the surface to some extent, but do you think that there is enough of the woody charcoally matter there to furnish the material of that great tree? It was a poor clay when the acorn was planted, and no one has been near the place since to supply the growing plant with the matter it wanted. We may suppose the tree to have stood in a forest near which no dung cart ever went, so that no supply of food for the plant could have reached it beyond what existed when the seed was planted, and then the soil was very poor, and contained none of the material which has since appeared in the stem and leaves, and branches of that great tree. How did they obtain it? The thing certainly appears difficult of explanation.

Take the case, too, of any of our common crops—of our grass lands, for instance. Let us imagine the case of a dairy farm of 100 acres; we may suppose it to be able to maintain a herd of 30 cows. What will such a farm produce in a year? Suppose it to be good land, able to keep a stock of good sort. Perhaps I shall not be far wrong if I put the produce of a cow at something like 3 1-2 cwt. of cheese, and 30 or 40 lbs. of whey butter every year; and besides this, there may be some bacon made from the waste of a dairy farm of 100 acres; we may suppose it to maintain a herd of thirty cows. What will such a farm produce in a year? Suppose it to be good land, able to keep a stock of good sort. Perhaps I shall not be far wrong if I put the produce of a cow at something like 3 1-2 cwt. of cheese, and 30 or 40 lbs of whey butter every year; and besides this, there may be some bacon made from the waste of the dairy. Well, then, a farm of thirty dairy cows will yield nearly five tons of cheese, and eight cwt. of butter in the year, besides this bacon. That quantity of butter and cheese are exported annually from that extent of grass land. Now, where did that butter and cheese come from? Have they been made out of the subtance of the cows? They are

as heavy now as they were. It has not been made at the expense of the cows—any more, indeed, than the wheat or the barley, which comes from the threshing machine, is made at the expense of the machine. The cows are merely the machines by which the cheese is made out of the food they eat, and just as the wheat is in the rick that is being threshed, so the cheese resides in the grass that is being eaten. Well, then, where does the grass get it? From the soil, do you think? Just consider; take a hundred years—what has been added to the soil of that farm during that period? Hardly anything; the farmer may perhaps have bought some bran and some meal every season for the pigs; but then he has sold the bacon made by his purchases, so that the farm has lost as much as it has gained, in that respect. He has bought no manure. It will not do to say the farm continues to yield the grass because of the manure that is added, for none has been added to the farm, none has been brought on the farm. Manure has, no doubt, been added to the fields, but none has been imported from without the farm, and yet, five tons of cheese have been exported every year; and how has that great draught upon the farm been maintained without loss? The manure that is applied to the field helps the grass greatly; but it cannot supply the cheese I speak of; for you must acknowledge that the manure is just what remains of the grass after the cows have taken the butter and cheese out of it, so that every year, the land is robbed of so much cheese; that is, if the cheese be in the soil. But can you believe that it is? Can you believe that every year, the soil of this farm is the poorer by five tons of cheese than it was? Why, how long has it stood this waste? If we suppose that it has been yielding at that rate during 1,000 years, there must have been 5,000 tons of cheese in the soil of that farm—50 tons of cheese in every acre of it, at the beginning, and if anything, the farm is more fertile now than it was then—fuller of cheese, no doubt, than ever; so that for all we know, there must be thousands upon thousands of tons of cheese in it still. Ah! but that explanation cannot stand; we cannot believe that the wood of our trees, nor the cheese, or the butter of our dairy farms comes out of the soil. Where do they come from then?

Now, before attempting to answer this question, let us take the case of an arable farm. Suppose we take our own, at ——, for instance. It contains about 270 acres of land—off 120 or 130 acres of it every year, we cut a crop of wheat, which may average from 32 to 36 bushels of wheat per acre; and besides these, 4,500 or 4,600 bushels of wheat, we sell annually, probaby, ten or eleven tons' weight of beef, mutton, and bacon; that is, the animals we sell off, are, on the whole, heavier by that weight than they were when brought on. We buy

some 100 or 200 bags of meal and linseed as food for the live stock every year, so that much is added to the soil every year, and that may account for 500 or 600 bushels of wheat we sell off; but where do we get the 4,000, and where does all the beef and mutton that we sell come from? It will not do to say it comes from the manure; for set a watch on the entrance gate of the farm, and count what goes in and what comes out of it in a year; hardly any manure goes in, and you will find that 4,000 bushels of grain go off the farm in a year, and you will find that ten or eleven tons' weight of meat go off the farm more than comes on it in the year. Where does all that food come from? The question is, whether or not it can be supposed to come from the soil.

During the past ten years, we must have sent off the farm 30,000 or 40,000 bushels of wheat, and a hundred tons of meat. I take our own case, as it is the only one I am perfectly acquainted with; but any cultivator of the soil, will, if he looks back a few years, have to acknowledge the same remarkable truths in the case of his own farm. Do you think that all that bread and beef came out of the land? Why, the land is better and richer after all that has been taken out of it than it was before; and if it be kept in cultivation for years to come, it may yield hundreds of thousands of bushels of wheat yet; they are not there now most certainly — where will they come from? Neither the wood of our trees, nor the dairy produce of our grass lands, nor the grain and meat of our arable lands, can be supposed to come from the soil. If all the wheat, oats, rye, barley, beans, peas, bacon, butter, cheese, beef, mutton, and so on, that England has produced since it was first cultivated, were piled upon the land now, it would be more than a foot deep over the whole island. Deeper than the soil itself is, on the average, over the country. And should things remain as they are for another 1,000 years, the land will have yielded another such lot; that is, more food in point of bulk and of weight, than the soil itself actually is. Where has it, where will it come from? That is the question.

From the "Agriculturist."

VILLAGE LECTURES, No. 2.

A plant is made up of roots, and a stem which carries leaves. It does not live in the soil only—the greater part of it lives in the air. Almost the whole of the plant above ground is covered with pores, little holes in its skin through which it absorbs, sucks in food. Only the *extremeties* of the roots have these pores by which they can absorb nourishment. No doubt the

roots do take in water from the soil, and along with it they will take in whatever the water has dissolved in it. But then, if you examine this water, you will find very little of the matter of wood, or of cheese, or of corn, or of meat, dissolved in it. The water which comes from our drains, and which is such as the roots of plants suck up, is indeed apparently clear and quite pure, very good water to drink, but none of us would get fat upon it if that were all we had to live upon. Neither, you may depend upon it, will a tree nor a plant get stouter and grow if that be all that it has to live upon. The soil contains quite as much vegetable matter at the end of a rotation of crops as it does at the beginning; it contains a great deal *more* vegetable matter after a forest of trees has been grown out of it than it did when the acorns were planted; therefore, all this matter could not have been got out of the land—the water could not have dissolved all this matter out of the earth and furnished it to the roots of plants, so that they might suck it up and flourish upon it. No. The great bulk of every plant that grows enters it—not by the roots from the earth, but by the leaves from the air. It is the air, and the sunshine and the rain water, not the mineral matter of the soil, that make our trees shoot, our turnips swell, and our wheat and grain crops ripen their seed.

But before entering upon the argument by which I have to prove this, I may as well just refer to the idea which some people may have that a plant changes the matter of the soil on which it feeds into its own substance. It cannot do this; it cannot make one thing into another. It must have the right things given to it or it cannot grow; too much of one thing will not make up for the absence of another. Unless a mason be provided with the wood and the bricks and the mortar, he cannot build the house; and neither can a plant build its own structure up unless it be provided with the right things in the right quantity. The mason might have abundance of bricks; but if he had that alone he could not proceed; he could not make every thing he wanted out of an abundance of only one of them. And just so with plants; you must not think that they can make the wood, nor the seed, nor the leaves, nor the root, out of the earth of the soil. They have no power to make one thing into another; they can only make wood of the matter of wood; leaves out of the matter of leaves; seed out of the matter of seed.

It is quite consistent with what is known, to say, that when the world was created, only sixty or seventy different kinds of particles or atoms, and a certain number of each sort were called into being; and that though they were put together in so many different forms, and though as time passes some of these substances thus formed are continually being taken to

pieces, as it were, and decomposed, and others are being built up of the pieces, yet, the world is made of just the same number of each kind of particles or atoms; the same number of pieces of each kind now, as it was 6,000 years ago. It is consistent, I say, with what is known, to suppose that not one particle has been created since—not one since been converted into another. Each is as it was when originally called into being, and though not in the same place now, nor united with the same companions now as it was then, yet it is the same particle, possessed of the same shape, size and weight, and endowed with the same properties.

Now, these particles are perfectly distinguishable and perfectly recognisable, but I cannot go through the process just now by which the individuality and proper distinct character and existence of each is proved, and therefore you must be content to believe me when I say that the soil contains comparatively few of those particles which go to make the bulk of a tree, or the substance of butter, of cheese, of wheat, or of meat—that it positively contains more of them every year under good farming, notwithstanding that butter and cheese, and wheat and meat, are every year being sent off it to market, and that, as neither a plant, nor any thing else can change one thing into another, the matter of wood, or of one different agricultural product not being in the soil in sufficient quantity, it cannot come out of the soil in sufficient quantity to form the building material of the trees and plants that grow upon the land. The great bulk of each came not from the soil but the air.

You will see, by-and-bye, notwithstanding that it is quite consistent with this statement, that the farmer should cultivate and manure the land to make his plants grow; for, although the soil does not supply the plant with much of its subsistence, yet it provides something which is necessary to it and without which the plant could not live. If the ploughing and harrowing and manuring were of no use to the crop, of course, no one would go to any expense in cultivation. If the air provided all the food that plants needed, people would not labor at their gardens; they would just sow their seed, and then pray for the wind to blow and the rain to fall, and the sun to shine, till the crop was ripe; then, indeed, they might have to wake up for harvest time. But it has been so arranged that plants require our labor both at seedtime and harvest, and all the season through, in order that they may yield their utmost; and thus, employment, as well as food, is provided for man.

Now let us return to the case of one tree. We have proved that its substance did not come from the soil; for the matter of wood is not in the soil in quantity enough, and the plant cannot change one thing into another—and as air is the only

other thing that the plant has access to, the inference is, that it must get its substance thence. Well, but you will say, "If the wood is not in the soil it certainly is not in the air. There is nothing solid or substantial in air like the matter of wood must be." I think I can prove to you that there is something like the matter of wood in the air, nevertheless. Suppose that you cut down that tree, which you say could not have come out of the air, and set fire to it and leave it for a little while—on your return you will find that it has gone—that is, that it has burned up. Where has it gone to? If it never was in the air before it is in the air now, for certain; and the clear air into which it has been converted will go to furnish the matter of wood to other trees which are still growing. The tree did not all disappear, however. It left some ashes behind it. Well, the ashes of the tree are what it got from the soil, and they are thus returned to it; and whatever of the tree will burn or rot away back into the air, just goes to the place from whence it originally came.

Plants make their growth by food from the mineral kingdom, which includes the air; and animals by food from the vegetable kingdom; but there is constantly this compensating process going on, that every plant and every animal that lives, eventually dies, and each gives back to the sources from whence it was obtained, the matter of which it is made. I suppose that all the plants on the surface of the globe now, if weighed, would not be heavier nor lighter than the vegetable covering in which the earth was clothed 5,000 years ago; and I dare say that the quantity of animal matter now in life is not greater nor less than the quantity which lived in any other year since the world was fully peopled. The plants take food from the earth and the air, and grow and feed animals, and these die and return to the dust, furnishing the earthly part back to the soil from whence it came, and the combustible part back to the air from whence it came. You can imagine a farm which should be a little world by itself—large enough to maintain a family—it should provide the materials for their cottage and food for themselves; and wheat enough should grow upon it, and sheep and cattle, and flax and grass should flourish there; so that woolen cloth and linen and beef and mutton and bread might all be made from it; and thus this family need never leave this bit of land, and it would, as I said, be a little world by itself.

Now the soil furnishes its portion; that is, their ashes, to the grass on which the cows feed—and to the stems of the flax and to the wool of the sheep and to the food of the people; but there is no fear of its being ultimately impoverished by this—for it gets it all back again very soon, for the cattle are killed and the men die—and the plants wither and the ashes of all are

returned to the land whence they came—and the fuel is burned, and the dunghill rots away in the ground, and thus all the part which was obtained from the air is returned also to it. There is no difficulty now in conceiving of such a farm as this yielding so many tons of cheese or so many bushels of wheat every year without suffering. We know that this did not all come out of the soil, so as for us to be obliged to believe that there are hundreds of tons of cheese or of wood or of wheat all in the soil now to furnish future crops; and we know that it did not *all* come from the air, so as for us to be obliged to believe that there is the matter of all the crops that shall be harvested, and all the timber that shall be cut to the end of time, now existing in the air ready to be used year by year as time passes. What we now know is this—that every year the soil contributes what may be called the mineral part of our crops—their ashes, in fact, if they were burned—and littte else; and the air contributes almost all of the woody part of them—what would disappear if they were burned; and each in the course of a very few years receives back again to itself whatever each had given, ready to be used over again to make new crops and new produce—new food to feed another race of men.

In the case of the farm that yielded the five tons of cheese every year—it does not loose five tons of the cheesy part of the soil annually; the soil has no cheesy part to loose—all that it loses is just such a quantity of earth as the ashes of these five tons of cheese would amount to if they were burned. What quantity of ashes would be left by five tons of cheese if they were burned? A very few pounds—and that is all the farm looses every year. Certainly it is not the common sand of the soil that exists in the cheese, but it is a part of the earth of the soil that is sent off with the cheese, nevertheless; a very small portion, however, and one which the soil could loose every year for a very long time indeed without being any the worse for it. I burned a ten-pound mangold wurtzel the other day, and here are all that remained of it; these ashes weigh about an ounce, all the rest of this root comes from the air, and it has all gone back to the air from which it came.

ART. VI.—OSAGE ORANGE.

We are pleased to learn that a plant has been discovered that promises to become a strong and durable live fence. If, indeed, the Osage Orange should be found to possess all the qualities attributed to it, the advantages which it will afford to the great prairie region of the West, will remove one of the principal objections to its settlement.

But the utility of the Osage Orange is not confined to the

purposes of fencing — we are authorised to state, on what we deem reliable authority, that its foliage is the best food known for the silk worm. And, if it should be extensiveiy cultivated as a hedge, it may be the means of introducing a new branch of industry in the Valley of the Mississippi.

In connection with this subject, we beg to mention to our patrons that Mr. M. Young, of Jerseyville, Illinois, has an extensive nursery of the Osage Orange, which he has cultivated for sale, and can supply a large demand the present season.

[From the Morgan (Ill.) Journal.

"It was once thought that the difficulty of procuring material for fencing the vast and almost boundless prairies of this and some other of the Western States would retard their growth and settlement for a great many years; and there are many persons, even now, when the prairies are teeming with thousands of busy agriculturalists, who hesitate to locate upon our "ready cleared farms," on account of the difficulty of fencing them. Notwithstanding this difficulty, however, the prairies are rapidly filling up; and their owners have generally succeeded in paying by their products for expensive fences, long before the settler in a timber country could have made a respectable clearing. Even where it has been necessary to purchase rails, and bring them from a distance, it has still been profitable, compared with the laborious and tedious enterprise of "clearing" a farm in the forest.

As a matter of course, all sorts of devices have been tried to reduce the cost of prairie fences. At one time, ditching and banking were in vogue; and expensive machinery was constructed for cutting ditches and building mud banks, which certainly did their office admirably. But the ditches and banks did not. The earth of which they were made was scarcely more tenacious than sand; and the rain soon washed the banks back into the ditches from whence they came. Various kinds of hedges were tried, which did but little better; and many persons have now concluded that the only way to renew their fences economically, is to raise th m upon the soil, which they can do from the black Locust in about fifteen years. It is now certain, however, that it is possible to enclose the prairie farms with a fence exactly adapted to them—cheap, certain, of quick growth, and of endless endurance. *We allude to the Osage Orange hedge.* On this subject, we have been much disposed to doubt. but having recently examined hedges of this kind, in all stages of growth, together with the mode of cultivating them—preparing the seed, planting, re-planting, trimming, &c.—we are satisfied that no more perfect protection against *all sorts of animals* can be found than these hedges. We deem the subject of sufficient impor-

tance to justify us in giving a full account of what we saw and learned on a recent visit to the grounds of Prof. Turner, near town.

Prof. Turner has several acres of the young plants, which have been raised from the seed this year. They present their polished green leaves in long rows, some ten inches apart, and about fifteen inches high. A large portion of the plants are as even, and as equal in growth as if they had been trimmed; while, in another part of the field, they are irregular and uneven throughout. This difference depended wholly on the peculiar preparation of the seed to which a part of them were submitted. And Prof. T. assured us that his method of treating the seed insured not only *regularity* among the plants, but made their vegetation almost absolutely certain. The difference between the plants from the prepared and the unprepared seed was so manifest as to attract the attention of the most casual observer.

We saw a fine hedge of three years growth which was absolutely impassable to any animal, *from a small bird* to the largest and strongest ox! This hedge was about four feet wide; but its great strength and density have proved that one but *two feet wide* would be every way sufficient. There were no side shoots to this hedge, but the outline was as distinct as that of a forest tree. Another hedge, however, was disposed to throw up new shoots, and spoil its own outline. And this is caused solely by the fact that it was made from slips, which, as they possess no *tap-root*, naturally throw out surface roots to gain the necessary supply of nutriment from the soil.

The depth to which the Osage Orange shoots its roots is truly surprising. Prof. Turner, in his earlier management of the hedge, had a peculiar plow made for cutting them off underground for transplanting, and at first undertook to use the instrument with one yoke of oxen. But he found that, to cut off the tap-roots of a hedge only two years from the seed, it required *six yoke of oxen!* Hedges made from slips or cuttings are worse than useless, because their want of tap-root compels them to throw out surface roots in all directions, interfering with other things which may be growing near, and finally spoiling the hedge.

From our examination of the Osage hedges at Professor Turner's—in all stages of growth—we are satisfied that *properly managed*, it makes the best known protection for all kinds of grounds—plantation, farming or gardening—ever devised. It is cheap; it is hardy and long-lived, and as a *fence* is superior to the best post-and-rail, for not even a bird can get through it.

Prof. T. has disposed of great numbers of the young plants, through this part of the State; and we believe is prepared now to supply any reasonable amount.

ART. VII.—IMPROVEMENT OF THE MARAMEC.

To the Editors of the "Western Journal."

GENTLEMEN: Regarding your Journal as the organ of Western improvement, both local and general, I beg permission to submit a few suggestions in regard to the improvement of the Maramec river. The valley of this stream abounds in iron, lead and copper; but, owing to the difficulties of transporting these commodities to market, their production is greatly retarded and the profits of the products greatly diminished. Recently, Messrs. Evans & Nuckolds, the enterprising proprietors of the Moselle Iron Works, have become interested in the Steamboat Dove, and are now making the experiment of navigating the Maramec. The Dove is capable of carrying one hundred and twenty-five tons, and draws three feet water. She is now in the river, fifty miles from its mouth; she came up on a slight rise, but there is no doubt if the snags and overhanging timbers were removed from the river, that light draught boats might run with success for, at least, six months in the year. Messrs. Evans and Nuckolds are making 50 tons of iron per week; and this, with the lead, copper, agricultural produce, lumber and cord wood, produced in the Maramec Valley, would give profitable employment to more than one boat, at least for a part of the year.

It is believed that from ten to fifteen thousand dollars would be sufficient to remove the snags and other obstructions, so as to admit the passage of small steamers.

Petitions are now being circulated in the counties on the Maramec, soliciting the Legislature to make an appropriation for the improvement of its navigation. And, it is to be hoped that the legislature that is about to assemble, will, instead of spending a large portion of its time in manufacturing a Senator in Congress, and Governor for Missouri, devise the means of promoting the production and manufacture of iron, lead and copper; and, of developing the natural resources of the State.

A MISSOURIAN
Of 20 years standing in the State.

We are happy to learn that the citizens of the Maramec Valley are beginning to be moved by the spirit of improvement: and, that, instead of regarding the Legislature as a mere political machine, they look to it for the adoption of measures calculated to encourage industry and promote the development of the rich resources of the State. We entertain the opinion, however, that there is no ground for the supposition,

that the Legislature will make an appropriation for the improvement of the Maramec: nor are we prepared to advocate this policy. We highly appreciate the value of the Maramec Valley—its soil, minerals, and forests of valuable timber, constitute it, perhaps, the richest portion of our State.

But, owing to its peculiar location, we do not believe that the legislature can be induced to adopt the policy of improving it by an appropriation from the State Treasury. And, therefore, we beg to suggest whether it would not be better for the friends of the Maramec improvement to look to individual enterprise as the principal source whence the means of effecting their object can be derived. Associations, composed of counties and individuals, have been formed, and incorporated by the Legislature for the improvement of the Osage, North Grand, and White Rivers; and if the small sum mentioned by our correspondent will effect an important improvement in the Maramc, that amount can surely be raised by the counties and individuals interested in the work.

But if the means cannot be raised by an association, we are persuaded that there is a greater probability of obtaining a donation of land from Congress, to aid in the improvement of this stream, than in getting an appropriation of money from the State. The General Government owns a large quantity of land in the Maramec Valley, the value of which will be greatly enhanced by the improvement of the river: and it is but just that Congress should bear a fair proportion of the cost of removing the obstructions to the navigation of this stream. And were the subject fairly presented to that body, we see no reason to doubt but that it would be regarded with favor. With a view to this course, we would suggest that an application be made to the General Assembly for a charter authorising the improvement of the Maramec, by an association of counties and individuals; and, that the Legislature memorialise Congress on the subject of a donation of land to aid in carrying on the work. EDITORS.

POSTAL STATISTICS FROM THE REPORT OF THE POST MASTER GENERAL, 1850.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
November 30th, 1850.

Sir:—The number of mail routes within the United States, at the close of the fiscal year, ending on the 30th June last, was 5,590; the aggregate length of such routes was 178,672 miles, and the number of contractors employed thereon, 4,760.

The annual transportation of the mails on these routes was 46,541,423 miles, at an annual cost of $2,724,426, making the average cost about five cents and eight and a half mills per mile.

The increase in the number of inland mail routes during the year was 649; the increase in the length of mail routes was 10,969 miles; and the annual transportation of the year exceeded that of the previous year by 3,997,354 miles, at an increased cost of $342,440.

There were, on the 30th of June last, five foreign mail routes, of the aggregate length of 15,079 miles, and the annual price of the transportation thereon, payable by this department, was $264,506; beiug an increase of $8,814 on the cost of the preceding year.

There should be added to the cost of transportation, as above stated, the expense of mail messengers, and local and route agents, (which expense is chargeable to the transportation fund,) and which, for the last fiscal year, amounted to $107,042; being an increase of $45,529 on the expenses of the mail messengers and local route agents for the preceding year.

The increase of our mail service, for the last fiscal year, over the year preceding, was about 9 4-10 per cent., and the increase in the total cost was abous 12 7-10 per cent.

The number of postmasters appointed during the year ending 30th June, 1850, was 6,518. Of that number 2,600 were appointed to fill vacancies occasioned by the decease of the previous incumbents; 262 on a change of the sites of the offices for which they were appointed; 1,444 on the removal of their predecessors; and 1,979 were appointed on the establishment of new offices.

The whole number of post offices in the United States, at the end of that year, was 18,417. There were 1,979 post offices established, and 309 discontinued during the year.

The gross revenue of the department for the year ending

June 30, 1850, was $5,552,971,48, derived from the following sources:

From letter postage, including foreign postage, and stamps sold	$4,575,663 86
From newspaper and pamphlet postage	919,485 94
From fines	38 00
From miscellaneous items	3,048 66
From receipts on account of dead letters	1,748 40
	$5,499,984 86
From the appropriation made by the 12th section of the act of 3d March, 1847, for the franked matter of the departments	200,000 00
	$5,699,984 86
From this sum should be deducted the amount received during the year for British postages, which are payable to that government under the postal convention of December, 1848	147,013 38
Leaving for the gross revenue of the year	$5,552,971 48

The expenditures of the year were as follows:

For the transportation of the mails	$2,965,786 36
" ship, steamboat, and way letters	40,543 71
" compensation to postmasters	1,549,376 19
" wrapping paper	27,435 53
" office furniture	6,859 70
" advertising	72,633 50
" mail bags	31,160 82
" blanks	30,639 26
" mail locks, keys, and stamps	9,392 30
" mail depredations and special agents	29,725 79
" clerks for offices, (offices of postmasters,)	357,935 51
" miscellaneous items	89,526 00
" post office laws and regulations	1,722 24
" repayment of money found in dead letters	216 52
	$5,212,953 43
Leaving as the excess of the gross revenue over the expenditures of the year, the sum of	$340,018 05
The undrawn appropriations for this department, under the 12th section of the	

act of 1847, before referred to, amounted, on the 30th June last, (including the $200,000 embraced in the revenues of the last year, and included in the foregoing balance,) to - - -		665,555 55
The Auditor of the department estimates the balance to the credit of the revenue of the department, on the day last mentioned, which will be ultimately found to be available, (and which does not include the $665,555 55 above mentioned,) at - - - -		649,165 31
Making an available balance, from all sources of		$1,314,720 86
Out of which there is payable to the British government, for postages collected under the postal treaty, during the fiscal year ending June 30, '49	$35,661 66	
And during the year ending June 30, 1850 - - - -	147,013 38	182,675 04
Leaving a net balance, (as estimated by the Auditor,) of - - -		$1,132,045 82

For a more detailed statement of the fiscal condition and affairs of the department, you are respectfully referred to the report of the Auditor hereto annexed.

The new contracts for mail transportation in the northern section composed of the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York, made in the spring of 1849, show an increase of annual compensation of $96,981; being an increase of more than eighteen per cent. upon the previous cost of that section.

The new contracts made under the lettings of last spring for the western section of the Union, embracing the States of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alnbama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas, and the Territories, exhibit a still greater increase in the annual cost of transportation in that section.

This increase is estimated in the contract office at $236,696 per annum, being about 25 per cent. advance upon the annual cost of that section under the contracts in force up to the end of the last fiscal year. Of this, about 10 and four-fifths per cent. is attributable to the increase of service in that section, and about 14 and one-fifth per cent. to the increased rate of compensation provided for in the late contracts.

The increased cost in the other sections of the Union, under the orders for the improvement and extension of the service on

existing mail routes, made by the Postmaster General, during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, will amount,

(After deducting the curtailments ordered) to - - - - -	$12,470 00
And similar orders, to be made during the residue of the year, may increase the expenses - - - - -	50,000 00
The placing of the steam mail packet Franklin on the New York and Havre line, will add the cost of a half monthly line for about ten months - -	62,500 00
The service in California and Oregon, so far as reported, will cost for the current year - - - - - -	80,470 00
The placing of the steam packet Humboldt on the New York and Havre line, and the putting in operation of the new routes established at the last session, so far as it can be done within the remainder of the current year, in accordance with the requirements of the laws regulating the department, will probably add to the expenses of the year - -	20,000 00

The estimates upon this item, and that of the additional service yet to be ordered, are made upon very uncertain data.—Indeed, the extent and cost of the mail service, as well as the revenues of this department, are subject to constant fluctuations, and the best considered and most careful estimates can furnish only a reasonable approximation to the actual results.

The expenditures for the current year are estimated as follows:

The annual expenses of transportation, (foreign and inland,) as it stood at the close of the last fiscal year - - -	$3,095,974 00
Additional cost in western section under contracts, which went into effect July 1, 1850	236,696 00
Cost of improvements in other sections ordered in the first quarter of the current year - - - - -	12,470 00
Cost of improvements to be made under similar orders during residue of the year	50,000 00
Expense of steamer Franklin on the N. York and Havre line - - - -	62,500 00
Service in California and Oregon already reported - - - - -	80,470 00
Cost of new routes and steamer Humboldt	20,000 00
Expense of publishing a revised list of post-offices and postmasters, and a new edition	

of the laws and regulations, with a map to accompany the latter - - -		14,500 00
Expenses of last year under the heads of compensation to postmasters; wrapping paper; office furniture; advertising; mail bags; blanks; mail locks, keys, and stamps; mail depredations and special agents; clerks for offices, (offices of postmasters,) and miscellaneous items; with eleven per cent added, (such expenses necessarily increasing with the increase of the revenue and general service) -		2,447,199 90
		$6,019,809 90

To meet these expenditures the department must rely on the receipts of postages, the annual appropriation of $200,000 under the 12th section of the act of 1847, which has been before referred to, and the trifling appropriation made at the last session of Congress, as a compensation for the transportation of the matter sent free through the mails under the act for taking the seventh census.

Before giving an estimate of the revenue of the current year, it is proper to remark that no reliable estimate of the receipts from the postage can be made.

The increase for the year ending June 30, 1847, was 11 27-100 per cent; for the year ending June 30, 1848, only 7 43-100 per cent.; and for the year ending June 30, 1849, 14 20-100 per cent.; being an average, for three years, of 10 96-100 per cent.; and the increase for the year ending June 30, 1850, excluding the balances in favor of Great Britain, was 14 5-8 per cent.

It is believed that the postages of the current year will show an increase over those of the last year of at least 11 per cent. and amount to - - - - -		$6,099,616 28
Deduct British postages, estimated at - -	$145,000 00	5,954,616 28
Add the appropriations for franked matter of the department and the appropriation for the postage of census matter -		212,000 00
Making estimated revenues - -		$6,166,616 28
From which deduct estimated expenditures		6,019,809 90

ART. VIII.—ST. CHARLES AND IOWA RAILROAD.

To the Editors of the Western Journal.

GENTLEMEN:—In a previous article published in your valuable Journal we proposed that at the coming session of the Missouri Legislature, a charter be obtained for a Railroad from St. Louis to the northern boundary of the State, as a preparatory step towards an organization and application to Congress for a reasonable donation of Public Lands, the proceeds of which to be applied in aid of its construction.

The meeting of the Legislature is now at hand, and we would again direct attention to this subject—especially the attention of those more immediately interested in this line of improvement.

The distance from the city of St. Louis via St. Charles and the dividing ridge between the waters of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the northern boundary of the State, is 230 miles. The line of road by this route will pass through the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery, Callaway, Audrian, Boone, Monroe, Randolph, Macon, Adair and Schuyler, on the southern boundary line of the State of Iowa.

To give an expression of an opinion as to which county should take the lead in this great work, would be as difficult as it appears to us vital to the interests and prosperity of each one of them, and perhaps equally so to other counties more remote; as branch railroads, and plank and McAdamized roads could be made connecting important business points with the main trunk, thereby securing a means of reaching a good market, and a point of perpetual steamboat navigation at all seasons of the year. Another reason why this road will be constructed is, that in its whole length, for this region, it lies in the direct and natural course of trade, from north to south.

Modesty should not prevent our asking for less than alternate sections six miles wide on each side of the line. This would make six sections in a solid block for the whole length of the road, 230 miles, which is equal to 1.380 sections of 640 acres each, amounting in all to 883,200 acres. Nor is this amount extravagant, when we consider that the State of Missouri now contains within her limits 29,000,000 of acres of unsold and unappropriated public lands.

Money can be raised on a pledge of these lands, to a certain extent—and when the road shall have been completed or its completion insured to certain points—the lands along such portions would probably sell at from three to five dollars per acre. But we may safely put it at double the minimum price—the

rate at which the government puts its lands on similar lines of improvement—and we have the sum of $2,208,000 realized from the sale of land, and which is equal to the sum of $9,600 per mile towards the construction of the road.

Some well constructed roads, with a heavy T. rail, have been built at a cost of $10,000 per mile, ready for the motive power to be placed thereon. But suppose our road to be constructed in the most permanent manner, as it should be, with the U rail of sixty pounds per linear yard to cost $15,000 per mile, then $5,400 must be raised by private subscription for each mile.

Now we hold that as Congress fixes the rate of the alternate sections which are retained by the Government at double the minimum price, there is nothing lost to the nation in making the donation—but that the lands are rather brought into a quick and ready market—principally at the cost of individual capital and enterprise—and, therefore, nothing should be carried for the government free of toll—neither mail, troops, nor munitions of war.

The length of this line should be no argument against obtaining a through charter at once, for then the strong points would help out the weak ones—and bring to bear a combination of forces.

Look, for instance, at the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, which was chartered some twenty-three years ago, and which is not yet completed—but is steadily progressing; and piercing the Allegheny Mountains, is descending the western slope towards the Ohio river.

There is an important fact involved in the topography of the north side of the Missouri river, namely, that a route extending from St. Charles to a point on the dividing ridge, between Mexico in Audrian county, and Fulton in Callaway county, a distance of eighty miles from St. Charles, will constitute the great thoroughfares leading from St. Charles to the northern and western part of the State. From this point you branch off to Jefferson City, and pass down between the town of Fulton and Cedar river, 35 miles—and continuing onward with the main line 20 miles further, may take off to Glasgow at the mouth of Charitan—a point 36 miles west and 40 miles north of Jefferson City. Thence to Independence, Weston, St. Joseph, to Council Bluffs, or to the Iowa line in the county of Schuyler.

A great work may be commenced with small means in the beginning: but let those means be applied to the completion of a link at a time, and made available; then the first link completed will help to make a second, and so on, one link at a time, to the end of the chain.

PROGRESS OF MANUFACTURES IN ST. LOUIS.

NEW WHITE LEAD AND OIL FACTORY.

The white lead and oil factory recently erected by Messrs. R. C. Clark & Co., on the corner of Austin and 12th streets, is calculated, when in complete operation, to produce 200 kegs (5000 pounds) of white lead, and consume 300 bushels of flax-seed or castor beans per diem. The machinery is propelled by an engine of 60 horse power. There are now about fifteen hands employed in the white lead department; and when the oil department shall have been completed and the whole establishment in full operation, it will give employment to about thirty operatives.

The buildings, machinery and fixtures, were planned by Mr. J. T. Moore, an experienced manufacturer, and we are informed that he has introduced some valuable improvements in the machinery and general economy of the establishment, which are calculated to produce an improved quality of white lead, as well as a reduction in the cost of manufacturing. We have now three extensive white lead factories in St. Louis, whose combined operations are sufficient, we should suppose, to supply the entire demand of the west. Their capacity for producing linseed and castor oil, greatly exceeds the supply of the raw material—a fact to which we desire to call the attention of farmers.

We had intended to prepare for the present number, a complete account of the quantity of lead, flax-seed, and castor beans consumed by the factories of this city, but having been disappointed in procuring the facts necessary for such a statement, we are compelled to defer it, until the publication of our next issue.

OIL CLOTH FACTORY.

The enterprising proprietor of the St. Louis Oil Cloth Factory, Mr. C. Muegge, commenced this establishment on a small scale in the year 1841, and has extended it from time to time, until it has become, as we are informed, the largest in the United States. The factory buildings and arrangements for drying, occupy an area of two acres. The establishment employs about thirty-six hands, and has produced during the present year, about 35,000 yards of oil cloth. Mr. Muegge is of that class of men who look to the consummation of whatsoever they undertake, rather than to immediate profits: and while the manufacture of oil cloth has declined, as we are informed, in

the eastern States and at Cincinnati, the St. Louis factory has been growing. Mr. Muegge has spared no expense to avail himself of every improvement in his power, and has made several trips to Europe for the purpose of obtaining the latest and most tasty patterns. He is now reaping the fruits of his enterprise, and may be regarded as holding the oil cloth market of the west in his own hands.

INSTITUTE OF ART AND INVENTION.

A Convention of Inventors and Manufacturers composed of delegates from Illinois, Iowa and Missouri, met in St. Louis about the 15th instant, and remained in session several days.—Several important and well-timed resolutions were adopted by this body, having reference, chiefly, to improvements in the regulations and economy of the Patent Office; but we regard the organization of an association of Inventors and Manufacturers in St. Louis, as the most important measure adopted by the convention.

Such an institution is calculated to collect and combine important elements which, for the want of combination, have not hitherto, exerted their just influence in this part of the Union. Here, the man of practical experience merely, performs much labor which might be avoided were he acquainted with the principles involved in his pursuit: while the man of scientific attainments wastes his time in the pursuit of theories, the absurdity of which would be fully shown by the knowledge of a few practical facts. The fruits of genius, too, are often lost because its possessor is destitute of the facts and materials necessary to their development.

The "Institute of Art and Invention," if properly supported and rightly conducted, will afford the means of correcting these evils; for the association of art, science, and genius, will form a combination of intelligence that will give a better direction to the labor and economy of the country.

We are gratified to learn that one of the objects of this association, is to aid indigent inventors to prosecute their designs and procure patents.

SPIRIT POWER.

Two hundred years before the beginning of the Christian Era, a man named Archimedes, a famous geometrician of Syracuse, is said to have declared that he could move the earth with ease by means of his machinery, if placed on a fixed spot near it.

John Foster, an author celebrated for his essay on Decision of Character, declared that "the noblest of all human means, must be that which obtains the exertion of Divine power."

The most effectual power generally felt and acknowledged by the human family, is commonly called moral force—but there is an acting energy, superior even to morality, which may, from its peculiarly divine nature, with much propriety, be called Spirit Power.

Mechanical power, according to Webster, is that which produces motion or force, or which may be applied to produce it.

A crow-bar is one of the simplest instruments used by man to gain a mechanical power superior to his bodily power. By a bar of iron, wrought out from the mineral kingdom, the lowest kingdom of the earth, sharpened at one end and used as a lever, man is enabled to raise weights and move objects of a physical character, as rock, timber, &c., with a force a hundred times stronger than his own.

By pulleys and ropes, wrought out principally from the vegetable kingdom, man progresses in the acquisition of power to move and raise dead weights by his own hand.

The standard instrument used by man in moving the various objects on the earth, is taken from the animal kingdom, and the power gained by this instrument is called horse power. The amount of power gained by the mechanical contrivances of man, is calculated by its number of "*Horse power.*"

By burning wood or coal under a vessel of water, man obtains another instrument of power, and by the application of this instrument to complicated manufacturing machinery, as also to cars on roads, and boats on water, a mysterious driving power is manifested, which reveals in its energetic progression, new laws of the Maker of the earth, and attests for itself by the miracles it works that, although apparently derived from material origin, yet it is a power that comes from God. This power, half earthly, half etherial, called *steam power*, is sometimes found to be destructive to the fortunes and to the lives of men; but it is so destructive only when it is imperfectly subdued. The true intent and meaning of the power, properly controlled, being to impel man and his affairs, more rapidly and surely, onward through this age of progress, to a higher and happier condition of existence, which stands longingly awaiting the approach of the human family.

Electric power, though energetic in its action in moving physical nature, seems to exert itself most effectually in the realms of mental nature, in fetching and carrying intelligence, as quick as lightning, to and from various portions of the world. Electricity is an instrument of power much more subtle than steam—and, although also dangerous when imperfectly subdued, yet, when rightly managed, it transacts business of immense importance, of a character, at a distance, and with a dispatch far beyond the power of steam.

While individual men are attending to their various occupations, as farmers, manufacturers, merchants, &c., by the use of the above mentioned with other powers; the government of the country in which they live is sustained by the harmoniously combined action of its military and civil powers. Working in and through all these complicated powers on the broadest generalities, and on the minutest details, another power is found. It is the power of mind, of calculating intellect,—the power of knowledge—*Mental Power.*

As the physical instruments, crow-bars, pulleys, horses, &c., are used by men to move and raise dead weights of a physical nature, so the mental instruments, knowledge of the world, of men and books, arts and sciences, law and literature, are also used by men to move and raise blocks and cloddy notions of a mental nature. The mind of man is not only moved and raised onward and upward, but is, and always has been, in all ages of the world, marked in its progress by the relative perfection of the arts and sciences, the law and literature of the age. Besides these general instruments of mental power, individual men have natural mental powers which they exert, to push themselves onward and raise themselves in the world. Among these powers are shrewd discernment, cold calculation and strong self-will. By these powers, brilliant victories are won in the fields of intellectual warfare, but unless the heart of the hero is in the right place, and has the right spirit in it, he is sure to find with Macbeth, only a barren sceptre in his gripe, and like the waters in the hands of Tantalus, his victories always fail in giving satisfaction.

There is a nature in man which calls upon him, even in victories, often with anguish, for a support beyond all the capacities of physical and mental powers, and for the want of that support, not only does the hero sink within that inner nature, but the powers of his body and even of his mind seem to be crushed within themselves, and to go down together with him to the ground. And may it not be that this anguish, felt in the consciousness of the want of the aid of a power beyond the powers of earth or intellect, clings to the soul after it quits the body, with a tenacity as unyielding as its immortality? and that the soul is thus hereafter preyed upon as if by a worm that never dies?

This consciousness of the want of a supremer power than any corporeal or mental power, and this apprehension of dissolution and misery, unless the want is supplied from some mysterious source; this apprehension and this consciousness in man—are they mere chimeras of his brain? or, are they not rather the sternest realities? And does not the mass of circumstantial evidence by which they are sustained, amount to a violent presumption that they are God's truths in man present and eternal?

What can man do then to save his soul from sinking in misery for the want of some power beyond the power of his body or his mind? He must turn to the source of his emotions —the heart of his moral nature—and finding there the germ of the feeling of faith, he must bring it out; for by the delivery, the nurture, the development and the cultivation of this feeling, man obtains an instrument of power by which he not only sustains, impels and raises his own soul, but even removes mountains of opposition in a moment.

Faith is an instrument of spirit power. It is a conscious feeling of the deity within one—a consciousness of the laws of the Maker of the Universe in regard to one's self—a confiding obedience to the law of the highest nature, which, even in the vegetable kingdom, the generally considered insignificant mustard seed feels in the germ of its existence while it expands itself in accordance with the laws of the Maker of Heaven and Earth, which are the true laws of its nature, and grows from the earth in which it is rooted and grounded, to which it is firmly attached, and without which it cannot live, up into another element above the earth, an invisible, etherial element—which, like a spirit, moves over the surface of the earth—called the atmosphere. Faith, in man, is analagous to the strong expansive disposition of the mustard seed, for as the mustard seed grows from its mysterious and almost invisible germ within its body out of the physical element of the earth into the spiritous element of the atmosphere, and therein spreading itself in the vast form of a tree bearing its hundred fold of grains, as also the birds of the air which rest and sing in its branches; so each individual of the human family may grow from the mysterious and almost invisible germ of the feeling of faith within his animal body, up, out of, and above his flesh nature, into an element far more spiritous than that of the atmosphere, an element which the children of God breathe in the kingdom of Heaven.

In this celestial element man may grow into the vast form of the likeness and image in, and for which he was created, developed with manifold features of character; visible, not as the branches of the tree growing up out of the earth into the air, which may be seen by the eye of the body, but visible only by the eye of the spirit, bearing an hundred fold his fruit, of good will and good deeds, as also heaven-born ideas ans

emotions which, with their still small voice, like angels whispering, flutter and rest on and among the branches of his spirit.

About the time the New World was discovered by Columbus, the germ of the spirit of Protestantism was discovered in Germany, in the heart of Europe, in the breast of the Catholic monk Martin Luther. And now look at Luther! see into what a tremendous form his spirit has grown, branching and spreading itself over almost the whole earth, and think, too, how he moved, and heaved and raised aloft the spirits of his age, with that instrument of faith. In him we view the re-form of the spirit. He is the acknowledged personification of the Reformation. In the year 1520, says Hedge, in a sketch of his life, "we find him at the Diet of Worms, defending himself and his doctrine before the Emperor, Charles V, and the German Princes. That was the most remarkable assembly ever convened on earth—an Empire against a man! Lucas Cranach's picture represents Luther as he stood there, so lone and strong, with his great fire-heart; a new Prometheus, confronting the Jove of the sixteenth century, and the German Olympus. "*Here I stand, I cannot otherwise; God help me! Amen.*" In that middle age, that dark age of the Christian era, when Roman forms with iron selfishness had hidden the light of spirit, in that dark and chaotic age, Luther, by the power of his spirit, like a new creator, said let there be light and there was light.

This light,—the light of Protestantism,—the light which protests strenuously against darkness of spirit, and darkness of every kind,—this light is continually spreading itself, not only over the old, but also over the new world, and extending the branches of its rays even unto the islands of the most distant oceans, into the frigid as well over the torrid zones. The spirit power that exists in this light—this light shining from the heart of the moral nature of man, is obtained from the heart in the first place, by the instrument of faith.

Washington Irving, in his racy, honey-flowing style, treating of the life of Oliver Goldsmith, intimates distinctly, that were it not for a "knack at hoping," with which Goldsmith was gifted, he could not have sustained himself as he did.—Even when he sank within himself, when his body and his mind seemed almost crushed by the overwhelming load of debt and doubt that oppressed him—when even all his bed clothes were gone, and he was driven to the necessity of ripping open his very bed itself, and nestling himself among its feathers to keep his body warm—even in that utter extremity of his necessity, an instrument of spirit power was given to him, by which he raised himself from his naked aerie, plumed the wings of his genius, and soared aloft in his spirit, as Garrick said he "wrote like an angel."

Hope was that instrument of spirit power, which not only saved him from sinking in misery and despair, but which rais-

ed his spirit and carried it up and along, far above the troubles and vexations of the world—away into the realm of high spirits, where it indulged in communion with those who are living in that spirit land.

This instrument of spirit power—this hope—is a feeling compounded from desire and expectation, the desire of something good, and the expectation of realizing the object of desire.

Desire is an earnest, longing, praying emotion of the heart, which bursts forth from the heart, as the branches of a plant burst forth from the bud which enclosed them.

Expectation is an impression from without, intimating to the emotion within, that the object towards which the desire is impelled, will be obtained; as the warmth, the brightness, the stimulating freshness of the air of spring, impress the bud and intimate to its very heart, that the branches, the foliage, the flowers and the fruit, for which it is throbbing with an anxious longing which almost bursts it to pieces, will be fully realized.

This feeling of hope, keenly alive to the good emotions within, and the genial impressions without, may be so worked with, exerted and excited to such a flame by man, as to waft the oppression of his debts and his doubts away like a flame of fire wafts its smoke and its gasses into thin air; so that, by the aid of this feeling, man may arise from the bed of adversity where pale and shivering he had been lying, filled with a glow of earnestness, and an indomitable vigor in his nerves; and addressing himself to the labor of life, he may work wonders, satisfy others on the score of his debts and his doubts and uprightly doing his duty on earth, be exalted still higher in the splendor of his spirit nature, and as a representation of that exaltation to our physical eyes, the light of the countenance of the man, filled with the feeling of hope, may be seen to beam with the serenity and brightness of the purest sky.

Agape is a Greek word, employed by a classic and inspired writer, in a letter addressed to certain people in Corinth, and great stress is therein laid on the importance of *agape*. Without *agape*, not only the knowledge of the languages of men, but even of those of Angels, is represented as mere sound—lifeless noise. This word *agape* is sometimes translated 'love'—sometimes "charity." In the letter alluded to, it is translated "charity." The Rev. John Groves, in his Greek and English dictionary, gives "love" as the first meaning, and "charity" as the last—but in defining the verb from which the noun is derived, the first meaning given by him is "to be strictly united in affection." Judging from the above authority, and also from the context in the letter alluded to, one is drawn to the conclusion that the idea intended to be conveyed by the word was, a feeling of *love*, filling and enveloping, embracing and ex-

panding the moral nature, in its minutest and most comprehensive application,—minute to an individual—to an object—comprehensive to natureand to humanity.

By this feeling of love, man gains the highest degree of spirit power—the greatest of all power. Let him begin to work with it in its utmost simplicity. Let him apply this instrument of spirit power, this feeling of moral love, to an object taken from the mineral kingdom, the lowest condition of nature—a bit of a diamond, or a piece of gold,—let him look at the diamond, observe its brightness, and wonder at it,—but let him be sure to guide his wonder with all the freeness of this interesting but disinterested feeling—and then his spirit will arise entranced in its own divine freeness, while he wonders how it is that a thing of such a trifling size possesses the magnetic power of drawing, not only the bodies and minds of men, down from their animal and mental kingdoms, but even to draw their very soul down from the Kingdom of Heaven. By handling this feeling of love in this style, perfectly free from the mean selfishness that seeks merely the possession of the object, the spirit of man is moved and raised by the power thus gained; away from and above the vexatious anxieties usually intimately connected with the object, whether diamond or gold, and even above the mental consideration of the knowledge that might be gained by means of these stones in exchanging them for travel over the various countries of the earth, and for books and works of art, science, &c.—the spirit of man is moved, and raised by the power thus gained far away up above all these spheres, into the regions of the moral world, where strange ideas and emotions call on him, and where he receives and entertains them in the chamber of his spirit, and is blest by them with sweet assurances of spirit offspring of his love and his soul as Abraham and Sarah were blest by the Angels who called on them, and who were received and entertained by them unawares.—Thus elevated to this high moral state, living and moving and having his being in the home of his celestial spirit, with these and kindred new and strange moral ideas and emotions visiting him, and with gentle earnestness stimulating him to be generous, to be liberal, and to give relief to the poor in food, and to the poor in spirit—in this high life—with these ideas and emotions—and with the practical view of doing good to those who are in want of the comforts of life, man may look down on the diamond and the gold, and, to his eye, then, the diamond and the gold have a beauty—a radiance—yes, even a halo (for to his eye all things are hallowed) which the eye of the miser, or even the eye of the common animalized man utterly fails to distinguish.

The difference of the power of perception between the miser and the man of pure spirit, while looking at the diamond or

the gold, resembles the difference of the power of perception between the dweller on this world, and the dweller on another star, while looking at the earth; the dweller on this world sees here mainly a mass of dirt and water, the dweller on another star sees here purely the twinkling of a star, very much like any other star in the sky.

Visions of beauty and angelic ideas and emotions, such as are never seen or conceived by mere animal or even mental-nature, are thus obtained by the man of pure high spirit-nature, and the greatest of all the instruments of power by which they are obtained, is this feeling of love.

Let man apply this instrument of spirit power—this feeling of moral love to other objects besides stones—to the brooks that flow and to the trees that grow upon this earth—then besides viewing scenes more charming than were ever painted by the hand of genius, he will obtain the power of finding with the free spirited Duke, in the forest of Arden, tongues books and sermons in them, and what is more, he will obtain the God-like power of finding "good in every thing."

The application of this feeling of love is usually made, and almost uniformly confined to individuals and to humanity, and although the dominion of the feeling should not be confined to this sphere; yet this application of it is good and practical.—The work wrought by it in this sphere, instead of blessing only the entertainer, as it does in the sphere of mineral and vegetable nature, like the quality of mercy "it is twice blessed;" it not only blesses the one who applies it, but also the one to whom it is applied. The application of moral love by one individual to another, moves and raises the spirit of the one entertaining the feeling, not only with a high emotion of internal moral enjoyment, but also moves and raises his spirit to look, to say and to do things pleasing to the person to whom the feeling is entertained, then, by these looks, words and actions, the feeling that dwelt in the breast of the entertainer, becomes communicated to the breast of the entertained, and the spirit of the one entertained, is thus likewise moved and raised not only with a high emotion of internal moral enjoyment, but also to recommunicate by kindred kind looks, words and actions the delightful feeling mutually enjoyed, until at last, by continued harmonious intellectual and cordial conversation and intercourse, the spirits of each are carried away in a fiery chariot of Divine bliss more etherially than Eros and Psyche.

Their hearts burn within them while they talk by the way, and even while they are musing the fire burns.

Entertaining this feeling to humanity in a way analagous to that in which it is entertained to the individual, while the individual rapturous emotion is experienced the general tone of the feeling is inspired into and diffused over the map of hu-

manity, so that the human family, whenever and wherever touched and imbued by the influence of this genial feeling, are moved and raised, civilized and enlightened, in their spirit.—Their civil and religious liberties become exalted and expanded into forms and worship of greater and higher freedom—while at the same time they increase in the power of developing the resources of the soil, as also the arts and sciences; for this spirit power of humanity, although higher than, yet is not inconsistent with the physical, or the mental powers, but works with them in triune harmony, so that the pleasing transport occasioned by the exercise of this spirit power, is felt by humanity not only in the high moral nature, in which their spirits are exalted by this power, but also with thrilling congenial influences, like a melody of music, or a glow of eloquence is felt in every fibre of their brains, and even in the very nerves of their sinews, and in the very marrow of their bones. This is the way, by spirit power, that "*the bone and sinew of the country,*" that immense foundation, so much praised yet so much neglected, may be practically worked upon, built up and completed with polished columns and corner stones, and "cloud capped" spires, into a worthy temple of the Divine spirit.

Disappointment and despondency, trials and anxieties, vanity and vexation of spirit, envy, hatred and malice and all uncharitableness dam the current, and sometimes quench the very existence of the spirit in the breast. What can man do to save himself in this case? What can he do to raise himself above these obstacles and these difficulties, and to free himself from these half visible, half invisible fiends that, assassin-like, endeavor to way-lay him, and dog-like, back-bite him in the path of his life? Let him be filled and enveloped with this feeling of love, and minding the business of his life let him fear no evil—though he walk through the valley and the shadow of death—though malice may do its worst—though the mean and ignorant may envy—and though enemies may hate like poison—for there is that inherent power in the feeling of love, that it not only moves and raises the spirit of the man who employs it, so that it may overcome every opposition in the way—but there is also a light which shines from it, which dazzles and confounds the rebels who oppose it, until they quail and hide their faces as the Roman guards shrank and fell down like dead men, when they attempted to oppose the march of the Savior from the vale of death, and there is also a heat which emanates from it, which melts down every fiend-like opposer as if coals of fire had been heaped upon his head.

In the times of their Babylonian and Median captivity Shadrach Meshack and Abednego, were cast into a fiery furnace seven times heated—and Daniel was cast into the den of lions, yet the spirit of fire, and the spirit of lions were both subdued

by the power of a higher spirit, which dwelling in the hearts, filled and enveloped its entertainers, sustaining and preserving them in a way which all the arts and sciences of men, and even of magicians, fail to find out. Let man then be earnest in his faith—brilliant in his hope—and ardent in his love—resisting every temptation to doubt, to hate, or to despair, and as sure as he lives he will "not be overcome of evil, but will overcome evil with good."

Let these truths, some of which are hard for a selfish man to understand, stumbling blocks to an infidel, and consummate foolishness to a man of mere heartless wit,—let these truths which are plain to a child, be instilled into the hearts of the boys and girls—the rising generation of the present age—so that when they come upon the stage of action, they may be characterized by the influence of this spirit power as a race of noble and public spirited people—that they may be warm and stout-hearted as well as bright and full-minded, "and graced with every accomplishment to render them irresistable."

Let the farmer at his plough, while he works his way along in the proper field of his labor, also feel this spirit power working in his heart, and then with farmer Burns, his heart may rise with gladness, and glow with rapture, at the sight or the thought of a daisy or of a fellow being.

Let the blacksmith, at his anvil, as he hammers away on his horse-shoe, while the sparks are flying from the iron, stir up the fire in his heart; then besides expanding and elevating his influence for good, in the circle of his workmen and his customers, he may rise from that sphere like the learned blacksmith, Elihu Burrit, the apostle of the idea of the peace Congress of nations.

Let the merchant at his counting-room, while with his clear head he calculates the profit to be gained in certain adventures, also with his pure heart meditate the blessings to be bestowed in systems of benevolence, Abbot Lawrence-like, he may thus form himself into a model man, fit to fill any place of honor for his country—to be Minister, or to be President.

Let the lawyers, the doctors and the thinkers in their various avocations, while making a fortune and a reputation for skill in their professions, by the sweat of their brains, learn the art of refreshing themselves, with cordial drafts, from the fountain of their feelings. Let them work with their hearts, as well as with their heads, and let the stream of their liberal feelings flow out to humanity like the feelings of a Fillmore, a Linn and a Macauley.

And as the crowning work of man, let the principles of faith, hope and love, be placed on a fixed spot near the earth, on the broad basis of the heart of humanity—then He who is that acting energy, that moves invisibly as the air, in and

around all, may be obtained "if haply men might feel after him and find him though he be not far from every one of us," and thus by the harmonious exertion by them, with him of his power in them—by this spirit power, men may move themselves on the earth more like demi-gods than were the heroes of Homer; and the mental and the moral world may be moved and raised by them in a practical way, and with an ease as far above and beyond the speculations of Archimedes as the power of God, though working in and upon is at the same time, far above and beyond the power of man.

ERRATA.

Page 181, line 24 from bottom, for 1825 read 1826.

" 182, after ART. V., read VEGETABLE ECONOMY, instead of AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.

Page 203, line 9 from bottom, insert a comma after "yet."

" 205, line 20, read Deity instead of deity.

" 205, last line, read "and," instead of ans.

" 206, line 11, after the words "he is," insert the words "to be."

THE

WESTERN JOURNAL.

M. TARVER and T. F. RISK, Editors and Proprietors.

VOL. V. DECEMBER, 1850. NO. 3.

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☞ Note.—By some unfortunate oversight, our printer put this article to press without observing or correctly conceiving our corrections of the proof, and hence a mistake occurred in the title. The remarks at the head of the article were made by the American Agriculturist for which we gave that journal credit: but the words "American Agriculturist" were converted into "American Agriculture" and adopted as the title. The title at the top of the page should also have been changed. . . . . Editors.

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